





**■ HEALTH: THE ETHICS OF BREAST IMPLANTS FOR 12-YEAR-OLDS & THE TRUTH ABOUT HOMEOPATHY**  
**■ PLUS MEDIA**

**READ THE LATEST INSTALMENT IN THE MANCHESTER UNDERGRADUATE SOAP**

THE BEST WRITING IS IN 'THE INDEPENDENT' EVERY WEEK: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DONALD MACINTYRE, ANNE McEVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD

Captain Norman Edwards, 104, laying a wreath yesterday at the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, during the Royal Tank Regiment remembrance service; two tanks – a 1918 Mark 5 and a modern Challenger 2 – were present. The first time tanks have been seen in Whitehall since the Victory Parade of 1919

The CCF was founded eight years ago and has more than 1,000 members, including Ann Widdicombe, Peter Lilley and Sir Brian Mawhinney. In the recently published book of interviews, *Christians in the House*, Ms Widdicombe espoused her belief in "Christian capitalism".

**Steve Richards,**  
*Review, page 3*

## EUROPE NOON TODAY



**TONY BLAIR** will win round his cabinet and hold a referen-

**3Com U.S. Robotics**

to	Bahrain	S	30	86	De
Tia	Bangkok	F	31	88	En

<b>Florence</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>Mexico City</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>Singapore</b>
<b>Frankfurt</b>	<b>r</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>Nairobi</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>Sa Paulo</b>

over the Bay of Bengal

- Operates at speeds of up to 56Kbps at new V.90 standard\* ■ Remote retrieval of voice messages

messages even when PC is switched off. To find out more, visit our web site at [www.3com.com](http://www.3com.com)

**2Com®** More connected.

010

\_\_\_\_\_

Only £179 | FREEPHONE

# £41m bid opens race for Silverstone

THE HEROES of British motor racing, including such names as Stirling Moss, Jackie Stewart and Nigel Mansell, will today be asked to sell Silverstone, home of the British Grand Prix. In return, each stands to receive £50,000. Lord Hesketh, chairman of the 800-strong British Racing Drivers' Club (BRDC), which owns Silverstone, confirmed to *The Independent* yesterday that a £41m bid for the track had been received.

BY ANDREW MULLINS, GARY FINN and DAVID LISTER  
by letter. The bid has been tabled by John Lewis, until recently chairman of Silverstone Estates, the management company. He is backed by HSBC Private Equity, which has also bid, which would give Rupert Murdoch another key prize in televised sport, was denied by BSKyB and Lord Hesketh, though he did say: "There may well be other

offers in the future. The explosion in sport on television is driving people to look at sports assets." He added: "Silverstone is the Manchester United of motor racing."  
It is the latest example of the wave of big-money purchases — or attempted purchases of the icons of British sport. Manchester United could be sold to BSKyB, Celtic faces a bid from a group led by Kenny Dalglish and several of the country's most famous rugby clubs have

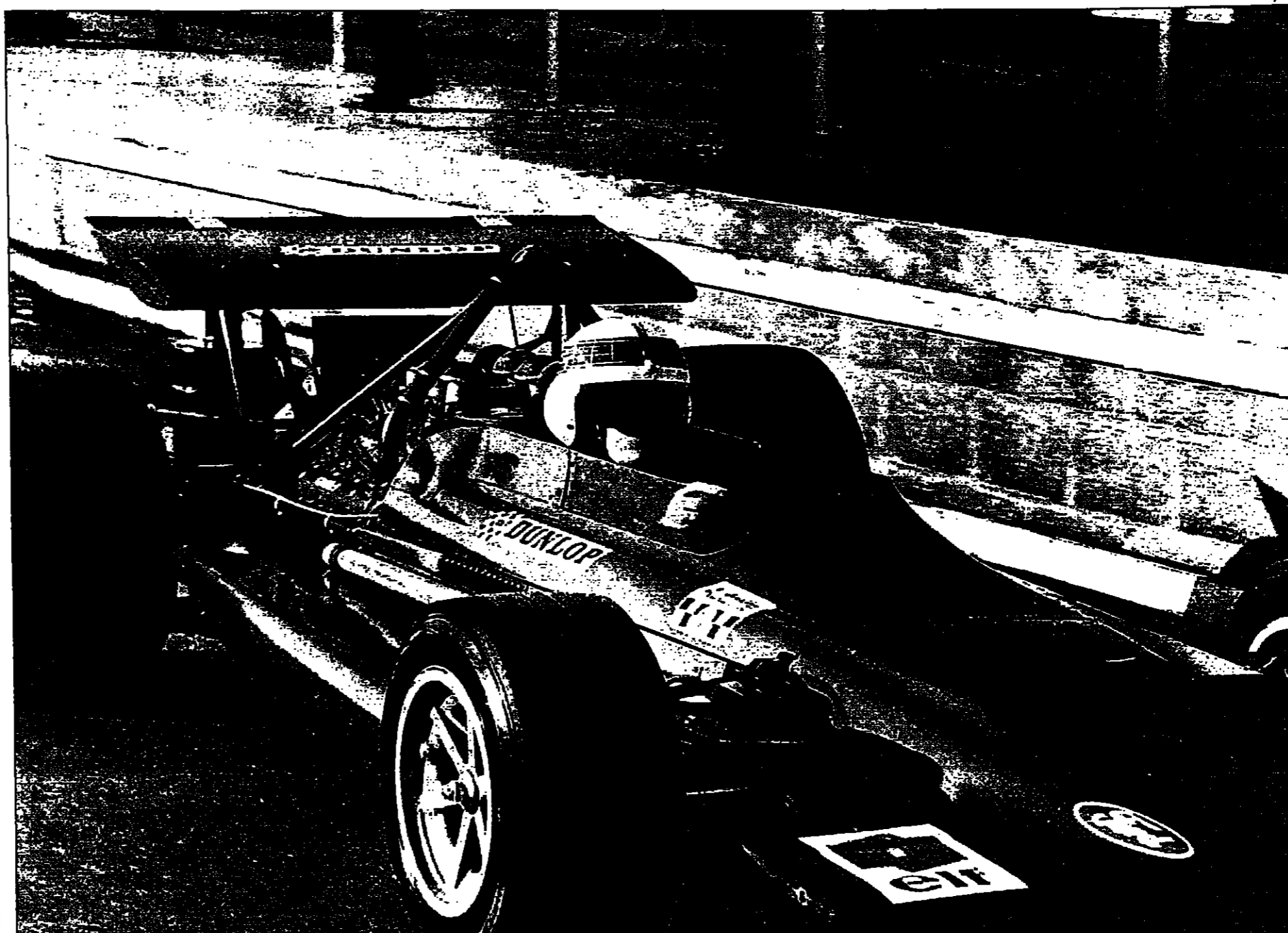
been sold to businessmen. In some cases, like Richmond and Saracens, this has meant a move many miles from their original homes.  
Fans can watch the British Grand Prix on terrestrial television until at least 2002, when ITV deals run out. Two years ago ITV landed a body-blow to BBC sports coverage by wresting away Formula One coverage in a £70m bid for the rights. While Bernie Ecclestone, who controls the television

rights to Formula One, previously spoke up for free coverage, analysts point to his increasing involvement with digital camera technology as hints at a global pay-per-view television empire. The decision to sell is likely to prove as tortuous as the recent sale of the RAC club in London's Pall Mall. Battle lines are being drawn between the multi-millionaire team owners and less wealthy former drivers.  
Murray Walker, broadcast-

ing's voice of motor racing, and an associate member by invitation, said: "I would imagine most members of the BRDC would be less happy for it to be bought out than most members of the RAC were. Members of the RAC just belong to a London club; the BRDC people are different. All the members are fiercely proud of the club. There are very stringent membership requirements. This means they are not likely to be too keen on it becoming a com-

mercial organisation. Unless of course they thought they were going to make a bundle of dough out of it. That tends to alter people's attitudes."  
Ken Tyrrell, a former racing team owner, who led the campaign to fight off a previous bid, said of the present one: "My understanding is that 75 per cent of the members have to approve it and I would have thought that extremely unlikely. I feel it is my responsibility to hand it on to the racing dri-

vers of the future." But John Watson, 1981 British Grand Prix winner and a former BRDC board member, said that the possibility of gaining relatively large sums from the sale could be attractive to drivers.  
"Silverstone is the motor-racing version of a golf club. I think the sale of the club is inevitable. ... I'm sure this will create a bit of a firestorm among the membership, which has tended to go to sleep from time to time."



Jackie Stewart (right) in action on the fabled Silverstone track, where Keke Rosberg (below, left) became the first to lap at a 160mph average. Other greats there included Stirling Moss (top centre), with Juan Fangio (right)

## Racing legends forged on the people's circuit

FROM ITS unpromising beginnings as an abandoned wartime bomber airfield, the Silverstone circuit nears its fiftieth anniversary secure in its standing as the headquarters of British motor racing and the repository of the memories of many historic deeds by the greatest post-war grand prix drivers.

Once rivalled by Brands Hatch, Goodwood and Aintree, the Northamptonshire circuit established its pre-eminence 10 years ago when its owners signed a long-term deal with Bernie Ecclestone, granting it exclusive rights to hold the British Grand Prix, one of the major events of the sporting summer.

From this annual three-day meeting, which attracts crowds in the region of 200,000 paying ticket prices that would embarrass Glyndebourne, springs the prosperity of a circuit which is also in constant use for other types of international and domestic racing, as well as mid-week test sessions by professional teams.

Located on an unremarkable plateau, surrounded by good farming land, the circuit was initially laid out around the broad perimeter runways by members of the British Racing Drivers' Club, who were looking for

BY RICHARD WILLIAMS  
somewhere to replace Brooklands, the pre-war speed bowl, as the centre of their activities. Brooklands, tucked away in the Surrey commuter belt, had been commandeered for wartime use as an aircraft testing centre, and was permanently hors de combat as far as racing was concerned.

Its slogan had been "The right crowd — and no crowding", but Silverstone, set in the centre of England, an hour's drive from the West Midlands heart of the British motor industry, offered a more democratic ambience right from the start.

By the late 1980s, when the fans of Nigel Mansell thronged the circuit and invaded the track itself to celebrate his victories, the atmosphere was not far from that of an FA Cup Final. Unlike the twisting Kentish switchback of Brands Hatch, Silverstone was a circuit built for high speed, with long straights and sweeping curves designed to test the nerve of the very best and bravest.

In recent years almost all of its corners have been tightened or otherwise modified in a bid to reduce speeds and promote safety, but last year some of the changes were undone in a suc-

cessful effort to restore some of the original character of the track.

Its history as a setting for big events goes back to 1950, when it hosted the first round of the opening season of the Formula One world championship. Giuseppe Farina won the race in one of the all-conquering Alfa Romeos, and went on to take the title. Froilan Gonzalez, Juan Manuel Fangio and Alberto Ascari were among other winners in the early years; the first Briton to win his home grand prix at Silverstone was the dashing young Peter Collins, who brought his Ferrari to victory in 1958, a few weeks before his death at the Nurburgring.

Curiously, Stirling Moss never won the British Grand Prix there — but Jim Clark did, three times, and Jackie Stewart twice, and James Hunt. More recent years have seen victories by virtually all the great contemporary names: Prost, Senna, Mansell, Schumacher, Damon Hill.

The eyes of historically minded Formula One fans moisten at the memory of Clark beating Graham Hill in a tense finish in 1963; of Ronnie Peterson, the brilliant Swede, taking the old Woodcote Corner flat out in his Lotus in the early Sev-

enties; of Keke Rosberg becoming the first man to lap the circuit at an average of 160mph; and of Mansell forcing his way past Nelson Piquet, his team mate and bitter rival, at Stowe Corner one memorable afternoon in the late Eighties.

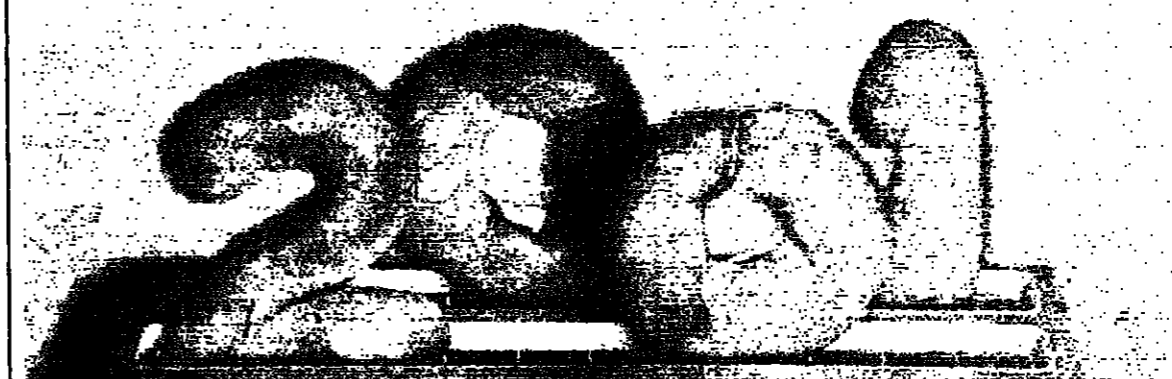
The track's safety record has been generally excellent. Even the lurid accident at the end of the first lap of the 1973 grand prix, involving more than half the cars in the field, resulted in only a single minor injury. Regularly resurfaced with high-grip bitumen, the track has been surrounded by the latest in safety features and marshalling aids.

For the paying customers, the Silverstone experience has changed beyond recognition.

Thirty years ago, half a crown bought any spectator a paddock pass, providing an unrestricted opportunity to rub shoulders with the champions. Nowadays the drivers and their teams are shut away behind high-security wire fences.

But no modernisation can affect the circuit's two most notable features: its very British ability to provide a heatwave and a hailstorm within the course of a single hour; and the occasional appearance, in the midst of a race, of a startled hare.

BRITISH GAS  
GUARANTEES  
CHEAPER  
ELECTRICITY  
UNTIL



When we supply you with electricity, we'll guarantee cheaper prices than your local supplier until 2001. KEEPING PRICES ON LOW

www.gas.co.uk/2001

TO APPLY CALL 0845 604 2001. **British Gas** Home Energy

## Politeness breaks out in jails

PRISON OFFICERS are being urged to address inmates by their first names or to use their surnames with the prefix "Mr" in a measure designed to reduce tension in prisons.

For some prison old-timers, the thought of the real-life equivalent of Mr MacKay, from BBC TV's *Porridge*, shouting not "Oi! Fletcher!" but "Could I have a word, Norman?" will come as something of a shock. But Sir David Ramsbotham, the Chief Inspector of Pris-

BY IAN BURRELL  
Home Affairs Correspondent

ons, believes that if staff are prepared to show inmates more respect the risk of violent incidents will be reduced and prisoners will feel more inclined to spend their time in useful rehabilitative activity.

Sir David has been impressed by the use of first names and "Mr" or "Miss" in the handful of privately-run prisons where relations between pris-

oners and staff are noticeably better than in the rest of the Prison Service. The suggestion that staff should be more respectful to prisoners was angrily received by the Prison Officers' Association.

FOA national executive member Bev Lord said that first-name terms might encourage some inmates to partake in "conditioning", where they try to ingratiate themselves with staff in order to breach security or gain privi-

leges. She said: "It's also important that young offenders call officers 'Sir', in the same way that schoolchildren show respect for their teachers."

But Sir David's views have received some support in high quarters in the Prison Service. Head of Regimes Martin Narey said: "All the private prisons call the prisoners 'Mr' or by their Christian names," he said.

"That has been the biggest single factor in helping prisoners build their self-esteem."

مكتبة الامير

# Anger in US at Iraq's narrow escape

THE UNITED STATES shifted its rhetoric from the issue of United Nations arms inspectors to the removal of Saddam Hussein yesterday, amid mounting frustration after the Iraqi President dodged another David and Goliath military confrontation.

The crisis demonstrated "that Saddam Hussein remains an impediment to the well-being of his people and a threat to the peace of his region and the security of the world", said the US President, Bill Clinton, yesterday. "Over the long term, the best way to address that threat is through a government in Baghdad - a new government that is committed to represent and respect its people, not repress them, that is committed to peace in the region."

There will now be intense congressional criticism of Mr Clinton, for failing to press ahead with military action when he had the chance, and new demands for efforts to replace President Saddam. "There must be a successor regime in Iraq that will treat the world better than that of Saddam," said Senator Richard Lugar, a Republican. "It would appear that Saddam is going to keep the weapons, and this is going to lead either to his overthrow by the people of his country or... a military action by the rest of the world," he said.

Washington was declaring victory last night in its stand-off with Iraq, as Baghdad allowed UN weapons inspectors to return. But the confrontation was never about just the weapons inspectors: it was also about a much more direct attempt by the US to undermine President Saddam by military force; that has been thwarted.

The US decided after the last confrontation with Iraq, in February, that the arms inspection effort had run out of steam. It had always been essentially dependent on Iraqi consent, and when that consent was not forthcoming, the only option was to threaten military force. After going up that hill and com-

BY ANDREW MARSHALL  
in Washington

ing back down several times, Washington became more and more aware that it was running out of ways to make the inspection effort stick.

For the last six months, the US has not been pressing its problems about the inspectors, letting a head of steam build up for a much more comprehensive programme of attacks. The air strikes that were planned were to start last Saturday, with Tomahawk cruise missiles, but to proceed with a much more in-depth attempt to "degrade" Iraq's military infrastructure and target key political sites as well. The hope was to build a consensus for strikes externally while preparing the ground militarily in the Gulf.

The White House had been urged by security advisers to strike last week, and it is believed that originally, the Pentagon planned a programme of attacks last Wednesday. But instead, it had held back until more aircraft were in the region. It is possible that the US Air Force, as well as the US Navy, wanted to participate: only yesterday did B-52s leave Louisiana. The strikes were to continue into next week.

President Clinton was to leave for the Apec Asian summit on Saturday, but had secretly decided not to go, and prepared the Vice-President, Al Gore, for the trip. Mr Clinton gave the order for air strikes late on Friday night, and the attacks were to begin at about 10am Washington time (3pm Greenwich Mean Time). At eight, the White House learnt of the new Iraqi offer, which threw everything into chaos. With an Iraqi proposal on the table which was broadly accepted by France, Russia, China and Iraq's Arab neighbours, that all broke up.

Throughout the crisis, the US has signalled clearly to those around President Saddam who oppose him that it wanted a change of regime. "We



Students being given flags as a crane lowers a huge poster of President Saddam Hussein in the Iraqi capital yesterday to celebrate Baghdad Day, marking the founding of the city more than 1,200 years ago. Reuters

would look forward to working with somebody else," said the US Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, on Friday, as the US prepared to strike.

The US has also been developing a new approach to the Iraqi opposition. "Over the past year we have deepened our engagement with the forces of change in Iraq, reconciling

the two largest Kurdish opposition groups, beginning broadcasts of a Radio Free Iraq throughout the country," Mr Clinton said. "We will intensify that effort... to do what we can to make the opposition a more effective voice for the aspirations of the Iraqi people."

The problem is that the Iraqi opposition is still too splintered

and incoherent to present a clear threat to the regime. The US has often preferred to focus on stoking up military dissent against President Saddam, in the hope of provoking a coup against him, although without success. It is possible Washington hoped a week's worth of air strikes might lead to growing opposition within the Iraqi

military, and an attempt to oust him. The end of the current crisis leaves Mr Clinton's security team with no apparent strategy for countering President Saddam. The weapons inspection effort can resume, although no one in Washington was pretending yesterday that they believed it would be an effective method of containment. After this, it will be very difficult for the US to line up diplomatic backing for air strikes again.

"There were many people in the administration who wanted - and expected - that we would significantly weaken Saddam with a heavy, sustained bombing campaign," an administration official told the New York Times. "But once again, we've hitched our wagon with Un-

scam, even though Unscam doesn't work anymore."

Robert Fisk, Review page 4

# Saddam claims victory in face of defeat

IRAQ COVERED its retreat in the face of an allied air attack by announcing a famous victory over the United States yesterday. *Al-Thawra*, the Baghdad daily, said: "The leadership's decision pulled the rug out from under the feet of the American administration."

Babel, the influential newspaper published by Uday, the elder son of President Saddam Hussein, claimed the threat of military attack was seen as "a cruel joke" by Iraqis, because existing United Nations sanctions had already "made them suffer more than [any] military attack".

All the Iraqi papers carried the text of the Iraqi leadership's letter to Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, alongside a photograph of President Saddam meeting his Revolutionary Command Council and the leaders of the ruling Baath party, who approved the letter.

Any sense of humiliation as a result of the latest crisis among Iraqis is likely to be submerged by relief that they are not, once again, going to be the target of missiles and bombs.

Ordinary Iraqis follow diplomatic developments in detail by listening obsessively to foreign radio stations in Arabic, such as the BBC or Radio Monte Carlo.

The crisis is already having an effect on Iraqi food supplies because it led to the withdrawal of inspectors from Lloyd's Register who certify imports entering the country under the oil-for-food programme of 1996. "There is a hold-up at the border," said Eric Falt, spokesman for the UN humanitarian programme. "It is difficult to gauge because there are no personnel at three of the border entry points."

Mr Falt said the UN was delaying the return of its humanitarian staff to Baghdad, which they left last week, because the Security Council has not finished its debate on Iraq's decision to let arms inspectors back into the country. "It has been decided that the staff should remain in Amman for the time being," said Mr Falt. The return of the UN staff will be seen by Iraqis that the crisis has ended.

The last-minute climbdown by Iraq on the eve of the greatest air attack since 1991 is an admission that the Iraqi leader miscalculated the international response to his latest confrontation with the weapons inspectors.

One Iraqi commentator, living abroad, said: "He expect-

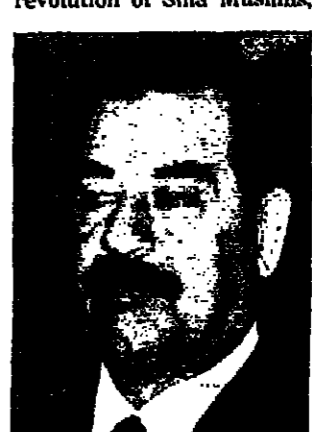
BY PATRICK COCKBURN

ed to fragment the UN Security Council and the Arab world, but in fact he united them against him."

President Saddam may pay a price for this miscalculation. Future confrontation with UN inspectors will be difficult for him to stage without inviting an immediate military response by the US and Britain.

While President Saddam dislikes the UN Special Committee (Unscoc) on the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, it can only operate in Iraq with his co-operation. In the past this has enabled the Iraqi leader to stage a crisis whenever he wanted, simply by withdrawing Iraqi assistance from Unscoc.

The crisis has seen other worrying developments for President Saddam. After the Gulf War in 1991 the US did not want to see him replaced by a revolution of Shia Muslims.



Saddam Hussein: May pay price for his miscalculation

the community which makes up the majority of the Iraqi population. Washington feared that such a change would benefit only neighbouring Iran.

The US also opposed self-determination for the Iraqi Kurds. The result was that America pulled its punches in trying to overthrow the Iraqi leader. It wanted to see him go, but only if he was replaced by a figure from the Sunni Muslim establishment.

Seven years on, such inhibitions have lost their strength. While American relations with Iran have slightly improved, a visit by Kurdish leaders to Washington last December also saw the US Administration move towards recognising the national rights of Iraqi Kurds.

President Bill Clinton also faces pressure from Republicans in Congress to take active measures to overthrow President Saddam.

**Buy our car insurance and get rescued for 1/2 price.**



Now you can save up to £100 with Direct Line. Because when you take out your car insurance with us you'll be able to get Direct Line Rescue, the UK's most modern breakdown service for half our normal price.

**CALL 0181 253 8118.**

www.directline.com

Offer available on Recovery Plus for comprehensive motor policy holders. Direct Line, Direct Line Insurance and the red telephone on wheels are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc. The company may monitor or record telephone conversations with the aim of improving its service.

## Swimming pool disappears overnight

Members of Broydon Municipal Council were today scratching their heads and pondering the disappearance of their once proudly-owned public swimming baths. Benvenuto! The council's new swimming pool, built at the cost of £30,000, was found to have disappeared overnight. The council's new swimming pool, built at the cost of £30,000, was found to have disappeared overnight. The council's new swimming pool, built at the cost of £30,000, was found to have disappeared overnight.

turn of the century. The only problem was that no one at the local surveyors' office was aware of the mine's existence, there having been an explosion in the mine. The council's new swimming pool, built at the cost of £30,000, was found to have disappeared overnight.

on the Council's premises some twenty years previously. "Virtually all records have been lost" said Terry Slade, local planning officer. "So local planning officer 'so the pool was built, no one knew what it was. It was just a hole in the ground. It was just a hole in the ground. It was just a hole in the ground."

**FOUND**  
by the  
Audi Used Car Locator  
0345 699777



## HARRY HILL "First Class Scamp"

British Comedy Award  
Winner for the Best  
New Comedy Show

Featuring stand-up from The  
Debonnaire Dachshund himself as he  
performs live on London's Premier  
West End stage, at the end of his  
1998 sell-out tour.

**Special presentation pack  
OUT NOW ON VIDEO**



150

... ..

Gynaecology scandal: Hospital investigation found that 50 of doctor's operations ended with 'serious complications'

# Surgeon 'went against basic medical procedure'

RODNEY LEDWARD was an incompetent and irresponsible surgeon. The catalogue of harm he caused to patients was horrific. While performing a hysterectomy on one woman he perforated her bladder. After ordering a test, he left her bleeding, and went home, having switched off his mobile phone.

In another case, the consultant gynaecologist from Kent performed a hysterectomy on a 48-year-old woman so badly that she lost two litres of blood. He then wrote to her GP to say the procedure had been "uncomplicated". In fact, the blood had leaked into her abdomen and required further surgery to remove it and her condition had been approaching a state of haemorrhagic shock.

This much we know from the investigation by the General Medical Council (GMC) last

BY JEREMY LAURANCE  
Health Editor

September which ended with Mr Ledward, a doctor for 33 years, being struck off the medical register. What is only now becoming clear is the scale of the damage he caused.

The charges in the GMC hearing related to 14 cases over a period of seven years from 1989 to January 1996 when Mr Ledward was suspended from his National Health Service post at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, Kent. Charges in four of the cases were not proved and Mr Ledward was found guilty of serious professional conduct on the basis of the remaining ten. He is now barred from practising in the NHS and in private sector.

In the six weeks since the ending of the case, 179 women

have contacted the hospital in the belief that they, too, may have been victims of Mr Ledward. A public meeting held on 29 October was packed with 65 people when a dozen had been expected. Women who had suffered in silence for years stood up in front of strangers and described intimate symptoms which had left them debilitated and in some cases had destroyed their lives.

June Halkins, chief executive of the South-east Kent Community Health Council, who attended the meeting organised by a patient support group, said: "The stories were very moving. I was amazed how many were prepared in a quiet and dignified way to talk of their experiences."

Mr Ledward was appointed consultant gynaecologist at the William Harvey hospital in 1980 but he also operated at St Saviour's private hospital in Hythe

run by the insurer Bupa and at other private hospitals. During the GMC hearing, two former colleagues testified that he had gone against "basic medical procedures" in operating on one patient. The GMC found that in three of the ten cases, the treatment he gave was "inappropriate" or had "no scientific basis."

After Mr Ledward was suspended in January 1996, an internal inquiry at the William Harvey examined 150 of his operations and found that one-third had ended with serious complications of which 12 showed evidence of incompetence. What is unexplained is why a surgeon whose errors were so gross that patients almost bled to death and whose colleagues were left to patch up his mistakes, was allowed to continue in practice for so long. The hospital maintains that

it acted as soon as it had sufficient evidence. A spokesman said: "We are very concerned about these women and we are trying to meet their needs. There had been concerns expressed about Mr Ledward but there is a difference between allegations and evidence. Establishing evidence of surgical incompetence is very difficult."

Jean Robinson, a former GMC member and a researcher at the Association for Improvements in Maternity Services, said: "This is much worse than the Bristol case [in which babies died from heart surgery]. No one suggested the Bristol surgeons ... acted recklessly or operated when they didn't need to. We need an external inquiry to discover who knew what when, who was responsible and how many other of these guys there are around."



Brenda Johnson of Lympne in Kent, on whom Rodney Ledward carried out a disastrous hysterectomy at St Saviour's Hospital in Hythe in 1984. David Giles

## Victim had to endure 14 years of suffering

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

THE DAY before her hysterectomy, Brenda Johnson sat on the hills outside Dover and cried. She was 36 and she had a six-year-old son but she had recently moved down from the north to live with her new partner, Roy, and she wanted more children.

"I sobbed my eyes out that day because I didn't believe the operation was necessary. When you are young you believe in doctors and you put your life in their hands. Now I would argue the point with anyone. I learnt a bitter lesson. I wish I had listened to my inner self."

That was in 1984. Fourteen years later, Mrs Johnson still suffers pain and discomfort as a result of the surgery performed by Rodney Ledward. For two years she could not walk and she was on painkillers for ten.

She had been told her condition was so urgent she should go private and the operation was carried out at St Saviour's Hospital in Hythe, Kent.

Afterwards she bled profusely, losing 28 pints of blood and fluid. The staff made frantic attempts to contact Mr Ledward without success.

An anaesthetist warned that she needed multiple transfusions and as her condition deteriorated in the early hours the staff called Roy, Mrs Johnson's partner, and told him to come to the hospital without delay.

"I was fading fast. When Mr Ledward turned up the next morning I had a very brutal operation in which he put in 76 stitches to try to stem the bleeding. The anaesthetist told

me they had gone in like an army of Irish navvies with their boots on. They couldn't be gentle because I was dying and they didn't know where I was bleeding from."

The traumatic surgery left her permanently damaged but after another operation she refused further surgery because she was too frightened. She begged to be referred to a different gynaecologist but her GP refused, saying that it was unethical.

"When I left hospital I felt like a lump of jelly. I couldn't look after my six-year-old son. He used to bring me milk and jam butties. I was too ill to cuddle him."

"It was a massive strain on the family. I have never held a full-time job since because I never felt well enough. I have spent most of the time going to see doctors. It has cost the NHS a fortune to sort out my case."

Mrs Johnson, now of Lympne, near Ashford in Kent, sued Mr Ledward but the judge decided that she was the victim of an accident and he was not to blame.

She was originally treated for a bladder problem but has been told since that it could have been dealt with by a minor operation or physiotherapy.

She now organises a patients' support group and has received letters from former patients of Mr Ledward's from all over the country and abroad. "They are angry. They want revenge for what was done to them," she said.

## Let BT make it simple with Cellnet Business First.

Running your company's mobiles can often mean sorting through statements, call tariffs and free minute options. Now, Cellnet Business First from BT can save you time and hassle with an easy to use business tariff and 24 hour helpline.

Make managing your company mobiles simple.

For your free mobile phone bill audit, call BT on Freephone 0800 800 800, to see how much you could save. Or visit our website at [www.bt.com/business](http://www.bt.com/business)

SERVICE PROVIDED BY  
Business  
FIRST  
cellnet

BT

Over 50 and renewing your  
**home insurance?**

Try Saga for high quality cover

Call free

**0800 414 525**

quoting reference IDN812

Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays,  
and 9am to 1pm Saturdays.

Saga Services would like to send you information on other Saga products and services and may pass on your details to other Saga companies for this purpose.

Now's the time

**SAGA**

See Front Page and take away leaflet  
**Why Does Your Memory Fail You?**

WHAT THIS FREE BOOK

WILL SHOW YOU

How to remember names and faces

How to remember facts and figures

How to learn faster

How to overcome stress and overcome

How to increase your personal efficiency

How to speak fluently without notes

How to develop a powerful memory

To: Memory and Concentration

Studies, (Dept. IDN187), FREE

POST 198, Manchester, M20 3JL

Please send me your free Memory Book

NAME

(Mr / Mrs / Miss)

ADDRESS

Postcode

OR CALL 0800 238 7070 FREE

0800 414 525

هكذا من الاعمال

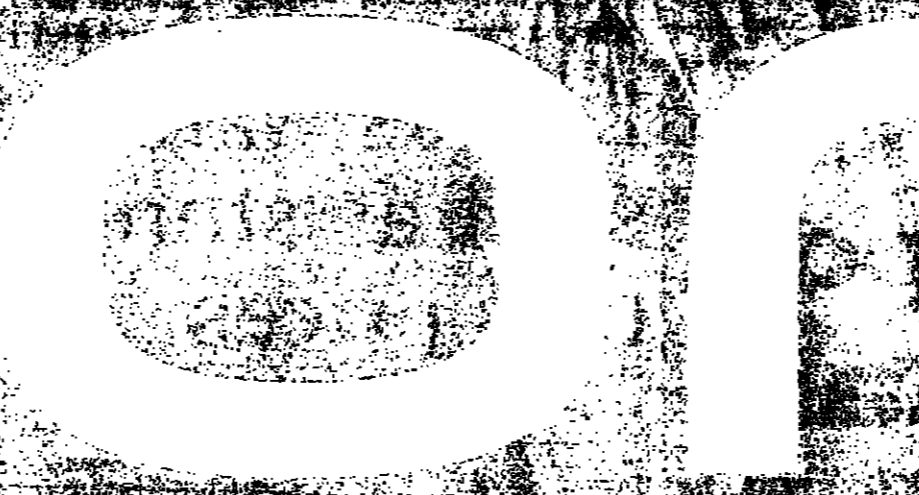
THE INDEPENDENT  
Monday 16 November 1998  
complications



m had  
dure  
ars of  
ring

BY JEREMY LARME  
me they had come in the a  
army of Irish men with their  
boots on. They couldn't beg  
the because I was doing and  
they didn't know where I was  
bleeding from.  
The trauma of carrying  
her permanent damage, but  
after another experience she  
refused further surgery be-  
cause she was too tired.  
She lay in bed, her body was  
different from when she had  
not refused surgery. It was  
unethical.  
"When I was hospitalised  
like a lump of clay, I could  
look after my 15-year-old son.  
He used to bring me milk and  
jam butties. I was too tired  
to do it."  
It was a relief to have  
the family I had never had.  
I never felt welcome. I have  
spent most of my life trying  
to see doctors. I have had the  
a fortune to see my case.  
Mrs. Ledward, a widow of Long  
me, said: "I was in hospital  
Mr. Ledward said the police de-  
clared that she was the victim  
of an accident and he was not to  
blame."  
She was eventually treated  
a bladder infection and has been  
told that she could have  
been cured with a minor op-  
eration or physiotherapy.  
She now receives a pen-  
sion, support group and has  
received letters from her  
friends of Mr. Ledward's funeral  
over the country and abroad.  
The funeral was held in the  
graveyard where she was  
buried. She was  
the first to be  
buried.

1. Buy a set-top box.
2. Take it home.
3. Plug it in.
4. You're



ONdigital believes in keeping things simple. All you need to do to receive ONdigital is buy a set-top box, take it home and plug it in to your existing television - no installation needed. ONdigital comes through your aerial so you can enjoy ONdigital straight away. ONdigital boxes are available in the shops now.

Only ONdigital lets you choose your own channels. You can choose any of our popular channels for only £7.95 a month or take them all for only £19.95 a month. You can also choose to receive all our channels for only £19.95 a month. You can also choose to receive all our channels for only £19.95 a month.

Digital television made simple.

Call free for an information pack

0908 1000

and renewing your  
me  
insurance?  
high quality cover

Call free  
414 525

reference to New 2  
open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays  
open to 1pm Saturdays

Now's the time  
SAGA

on the front page  
your Memory Fail You?  
The Memory and Concentration  
BOOK  
DU  
The Memory and Concentration  
BOOK  
DU  
The Memory and Concentration  
BOOK  
DU

Postcode  
OR CALL 0800 290 7070 FREE

# Student jobs take up two days a week

STUDENTS ARE spending the equivalent of two days a week working in part-time jobs to make ends meet, according to a survey by academics. As many as 30 universities now run recruitment agencies on their campuses.

Some students are even taking on full-time jobs on top of full-time university courses, according to research to be unveiled at a conference next month.

Academics fear that standards may fall because undergraduates spend too much time away from their books. They say some degree courses may have to be extended to cope with sharp increases in the numbers of students working their way through college.

A survey by researchers at the University of Central England found that more than 40 per cent of full-time undergraduates were holding down a part-time job, up from less than one-third three years ago. They believe that up to 70 per cent of students nationally may now be supplementing their income to help with the new

BY BEN RUSSELL  
Education Correspondent

£1,000-a-year university tuition fees.

Lindsey Bowes, one of the researchers, said: "People are looking at 60 to 70 per cent of their full-time students working their way through university. There is evidence which suggests that this does have an impact on the student experience."

Student leaders warned that undergraduates faced a "stark choice between working to pay the rent and going to the library".

The survey, for the National Union of Students, estimates that as many as 80,000 students had regular part-time jobs. Andrew Pakes, NUS national president, said: "A lot of student jobs are not about transferable skills, they are stacking shelves or serving in bars and night-clubs and they are worked like donkeys."

"Outside London the Government reckons you can live on £3,500. You only have to look at rents to see the students have to work. The danger is that we are moving towards an

American-style system where students work through university, but that will damage the ethos of higher education and could be damaging to degrees."

Tom Wilson, head of higher education at the lecturers' union NAITFHE, which is organising next month's conference, said that there had been a sharp increase in the number of students forced to work to support their studies.

He said: "There is already evidence that it does have an impact on drop-out rates. It may be leading people to extend the length of their course and it could mean that students pass their degrees, but with a 2.2 rather than a 2.1."

At De Montfort University in Leicester, a commercial agency Workbank has placed more than 100 students in part-time jobs since the beginning of term. Mike Petters, a former president of the university's students' union who now works for the agency, said: "With so many students now facing annual tuition fees [jobs] can bring in some much-needed extra cash without eating into study time."

## 'How yo-yos help me manage on a shoestring'

CAROLINE SHEPPARD, a marketing and law student, said a six-week spell marketing yo-yos was essential to help pay for her final year at university.

Miss Sheppard, a final-year student at De Montfort University, Leicester, has been working 12 to 20 hours a week to earn £600 to supplement her £900 grant and £1,200 student loan.

She got the job through a new employment agency on campus after returning with a large overdraft after a year travelling.

"My grant does not even cover my rent. With my student loans as well, I'm still left with a minus. Because I'm in my final year my social life is not huge, but the books alone cost £170. I'm working as well as studying full-time and [it] really is full-time. In a perfect world I would rather have the time to study, but the job does look good on my CV. It's quite a common thing for people to work but the course work is heavy as well."

"Unless your parents will support you at university you will have to work."



Caroline Sheppard



The Poseidon Fountain at Witley Court near Worcester, in the grounds of which up to 40 sculptures will be displayed

Andrew Fox

## Art park to be set among ruins

A NEW sculpture park with £500,000-worth of modern British works is to be developed in historic parkland surrounding a beautiful ruined Victorian mansion.

The Jerwood Foundation, known for its prestigious annual prize for contemporary art, is joining forces with English Heritage for the venture at Witley Court near Worcester. It will be

BY LOUISE JURY

the third full-size sculpture park in Britain, after Yorkshire and Goodwood in West Sussex.

The first work which will be displayed is a bronze sculpture nearly seven feet high by the late Dame Elizabeth Frink called *Walking Man*, purchased for just over £40,000. The aim is to buy up to 40 works

over the next three years for the extensive grounds of Witley Court which are being restored. One-third of the sculptures will be by established artists, one-third by artists living and working in the West Midlands and the remainder by young sculptors.

"I think it will sit well with our painting prize. It is a proper way of making a statement for

sculpture, creating a facility for people to see sculpture in a wonderful setting," said Alan Grieve, chairman and director of the Jerwood Foundation.

Witley Court was owned by a number of wealthy families from the early 17th century. The existing buildings, which are mainly Victorian, were destroyed by fire in 1937.

The sculpture park is part of

£7m capital expenditure planned by the foundation, set up to commemorate John Jerwood, a pearl dealer. It has not previously given capital grants. Other projects include an award of £900,000 to the Natural History Museum to restore a major gallery to display drawings, paintings and prints, and £1.4m to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, for a new Jerwood Library.

## Don't let a few records spoil your Christmas.

So here it is... whether you're self employed, a director, a business partner or just have more complicated tax affairs than most, now's the time for you to work out the tax due, or send all your records to your tax adviser.

We must receive your tax return plus any balance of tax due by 31 January 1999, unless we've agreed it will be paid under PAYE.

Complete everything now and all you'll have to worry about at Christmas will be where to hang your stocking.

For help and advice please contact your tax office during business hours or call the Self Assessment helpline on

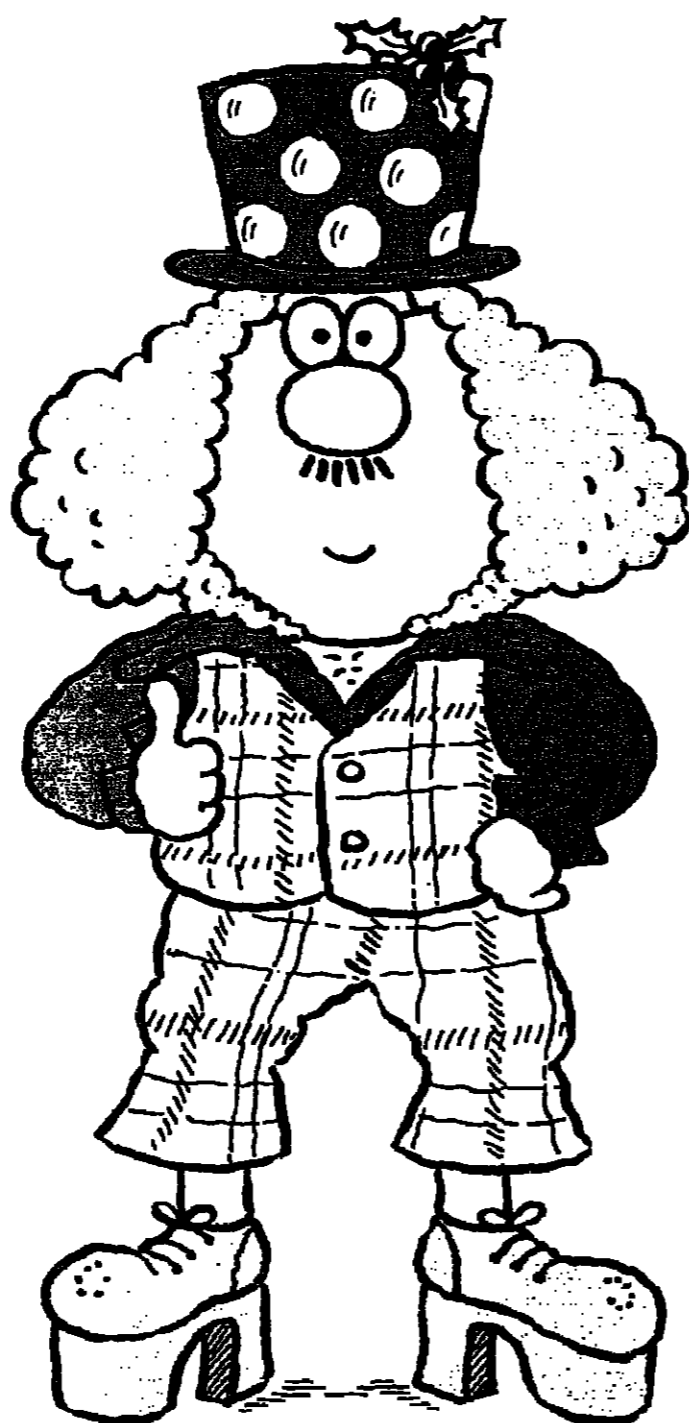
0645 000 444.\*



HM Revenue

Self Assessment - a clearer tax system

\*All calls charged at local rates. Open evenings and weekends. (Ref. 54-72)



## Drinks wars start as store cuts prices

SUPERMARKET CHAIN Sainsbury's is slashing the price of beers and wines to win pre-Christmas business from cross-Channel "booze cruises".

The company hopes that by cutting prices on lager and other goods it will persuade shoppers that hopping over to France to stock up on festive supplies is not worth the trouble. The move, which includes cuts of £2 off a pack of 30 25cl Biere de Moulins lagers, is likely to trigger a price war among other supermarkets before Christmas.

At £5.99, the 30-pack will still be more expensive than in France, but the supermarket says it will make cross-Channel shoppers think twice.

A spokesman said: "We are trying to show that people do not have to go to France to stock up for Christmas. Once they have paid for petrol, the ferry and everything else, they may as well stay here."

The Sainsbury's campaign is already being mirrored in pro-

BY JIM ARMITAGE

motions at Morrisons and Asda supermarkets on brands like Labatt's Ice, Tennent's Extra and Heineken Export.

Asda was today reported as being set to offer vintage Dom Perignon champagne at £49.99 a bottle instead of the usual £69.99. The retailing industry estimates cross-Channel sales account for 17 per cent of the beer drunk in Britain.

British-sold beer is subject to far higher duty levels than in France. Sainsbury's is backing its cheaper alcohol campaign with price cuts on turkeys and other festive foods.

A European duty-free sales were worth more than £1bn to the UK last year - a 17% rise on the 1996 figure - and more than twice that for the next highest EU member - Finland.

The statistics highlighted the need to fight next year's scrapping of duty-free and tax-free shopping, the Duty-Free Confederation said.

## Siamese twins 'stable' after life-saving op

SIAMESE TWINS separated in an emergency operation to save their lives remained in a "stable" condition in hospital yesterday.

The four-day-old girls, who had been joined at the liver, are in intensive care at Great Ormond Street children's hospital, where a spokeswoman said they had spent "a peaceful day" following "a very settled night".

The girls, who come from the Bristol area, lie side by side on ventilators while they recover from their three-hour operation which took place on Saturday.

Their parents now face an anxious wait to learn whether the girls' encouraging first 36 hours will develop into a full recovery. The hospital refused to comment further on the girls' chances of survival, saying only that it was "early days after a very major operation".

"They are both still poorly but stable. They are still at a very critical stage and are being monitored carefully," the spokeswoman said. "We are

BY KAREN EDWARDS

looking forward to a second settled night."

The twins were "unstable" during the operation at the London hospital and needed "external cardiac massage" to restart their hearts. Now they are receiving round-the-clock care from a team of specialist doctors and nurses.

Their father said: "We have been worried through the pregnancy, but during the operation we felt very confident in the surgeons and that everything possible was being done. We are now very anxious - waiting to see how the twins get on is very difficult."

A team of surgeons and anaesthetists carried out the emergency operation after the twins - who were born on Thursday - were airlifted to London from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol by a RAF helicopter on Friday afternoon after it was found that they were suffering from peritonitis.

## Chilly touch in theatre of cruelty

THE FINAL scene of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* is like a mighty inflection in the chronicle of 20th-century music. It would seem to be the very point at which Mahler hands over his hard-won inheritance to Berg.

Christoph von Dohnanyi's Philharmonia concert series "Mahler and Vienna: Beginnings and Endings" seemed to begin and end there on Saturday night. It was one of several moments in this expensively cast and painstakingly prepared concert performance of Berg's opera which revealed Dohnanyi's reading for what it was: a fiercely objective but ultimately heartless account of this magnificent score.

The expressionist nightmare, the eternal "Scream" of

### FIRST NIGHT

WOZZECK  
PHILHARMONIA  
ORCHESTRA/DOHNANYI  
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL  
LONDON

Edward Munch's notorious painting, is inside the hapless *Wozzeck*'s head. Berg's orchestra is a lurid canvas of insanity, hallucination, and man's inhumanity to man. Only a solo horn dares to dream.

But perhaps the most remarkable feature of Berg's awesomely complex score is that it is achieved within the disciplines of strict compositional procedures. For method in madness, Dohnanyi is your

man. A fearlessly accomplished Philharmonia Orchestra laid bare the viscera of the score with ruthless clarity.

But there's much more to Berg's (and the playwright Buchner's) theatre of cruelty: An underlying compassion which surfaces only fleetingly during the course of this bad dream, but which sublimates in that great D minor interlude.

That Dohnanyi made so little of the great crescendo leading to its point of release was to me symptomatic of an emotional and theatrical frigidity at the moment where the opposite must be true. Just as the two mighty crescendos following the death of Marie serve as stark and shocking, so must this untimely climax

carry with it the entire opera's heartache. It didn't.

That burden fell to Franz Hawlata's *Wozzeck*, beautifully conveying the dementia which so paradoxically makes this simple man articulate. And to Deborah Polaski's Marie, so alive to the spirit and drama of the text. In Berg's gallery of grotesques, Eric Halfvarson's shaven-headed Doctor looked and sounded like his surname might be Death, while the Captain was, in Graham Clark's incisive performance, the personification of hypertension, the tessitura of the vocal line suggesting his scrawny neck stretched for *Wozzeck*'s razor like a Ralph Steadman caricature. Now there's a thought.

Edward Seckerson

# World's largest prefab heads for orbit

THE WORLD'S most ambitious building project begins this week, with the launch of the first of 45 rockets to build an orbiting space station as big as two football fields.

Yet even before the launch, the project to construct the International Space Station (ISS) has run into huge problems, including massive cost overruns and continual arguments between the United States and Russia, even over issues as trivial as the station's name. (The US favoured Freedom; Russia thought that sounded like a snide comment on the Cold War. Presently "ISS" is the compromise.)

More serious though are calculations which suggest that during its planned 20-year life, the ISS stands a real chance of suffering a catastrophe which could kill astronauts - and perhaps leave them whirling lifeless around the Earth forever.

The principal hazards include a rocket explosion on liftoff, and a strike on the huge area of the station either by orbiting "space junk", which includes thousands of tiny metal fragments, including dropped tools from previous space missions, or meteorites.

The threat of being hit is very serious. To put the ISS together, the astronauts will have to carry out 1,000 hours of spacewalks. By comparison, the record length spent outside so far is 30 hours, on the second Hubble Space Telescope repair mission in 1997.

Space junk makes spacewalks - and life on the ISS - risky. A pebble-sized object would carry the kinetic energy

By CHARLES ARTHUR  
Technology Editor

of a car travelling faster than 100mph, and a direct hit on any astronaut or on the station could be fatal.

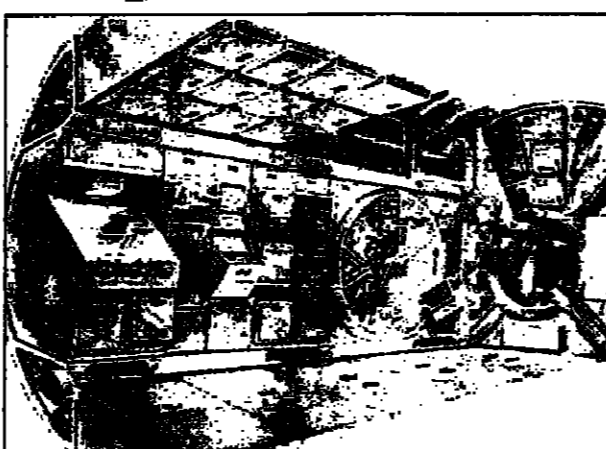
The size of the station, with 4,000 square metres of solar panels, will be a huge target. A Nasa analyst, Eric Christiansen, has calculated there is a 42 per cent chance of one of the ISS's 30 modules being penetrated by an outside object during its 20-year life. What nobody knows is whether it would cause an explosion, or just a slow leak that could be plugged.

Yet Nasa has not completed a formal risk assessment on the project, and last week Julie Swain, a member of Nasa's independent Advisory Council, told New Scientist magazine: "the opportunity for something to go wrong is phenomenal".

She thinks that something - perhaps major - is bound to go wrong by the laws of statistics. "It's dangerous. It will always be dangerous. It ought to be expected that people are going to die," she said.

Thus there will be many crossed fingers amid the celebrations on Friday when a Russian Proton-4 rocket takes off from the remote Kazakhstan desert carrying a cargo module, Zarya, with propulsion, command and control systems for the ISS. A fortnight later the US Space Shuttle Endeavour will take off from the more prestigious Kennedy Space Facility, bearing a cornerstone of the ISS - its Unity connecting module, to which all the US's pieces will connect in future.

The US space agency Nasa



An artist's impression of the interior of ISS, the world's first space station, left, and above a Nasa mock-up of technicians at work on ISS and right, an artist's impression of a space shuttle docking



was upbeat as the launch process moved towards completion. "Unity represents the first new human spacecraft to go to a Kennedy launch pad since the Shuttle launch 17 years ago," said Steve Francois, director of payloads. "The era of the ISS is here."

If so, it's very late. The ISS was first suggested by Ronald Reagan in 1984. First plans were that it would cost \$8bn (£4.8bn), and be finished by

1994. Presently those figures look more like \$50bn - or perhaps \$100bn - with construction finishing in 2003, though it should provide a permanent station for at least three astronauts from July next year.

Once complete, it will offer a crew of seven a choice of five pressurised laboratories with attached external sites for research. It could also be a useful waystation for future exploration of the solar system.

But some scientists remain doubtful it will ever pay its way, because of the associated costs of reaching it: every Shuttle launch costs about \$400m. "If Rumpelstiltskin took straw into space and spun it into gold, he'd still lose money," quipped one materials scientist.

Meanwhile, as Russia's economy has slumped, the US has been forced to shoulder more of the burden of designing and paying for the ISS.

Though there are 16 partners in the project (including Britain) - Nasa has had to drive the project.

Dan Goldin, the normally upbeat head of Nasa, told Congress last month that the problems with the ISS had forced him to consider resigning. Instead, he demanded \$1.2bn more funding from Congress: "If we can't get the money, maybe we ought just to cancel it," he challenged.

## Free Persil washing-up liquid when you buy Domestos bleach at Sainsbury's.



Offer applies to Domestos Bleach 750ml (£1.25). Persil Washing-up Liquid 500ml (75p).

Happy Christmas



from Sainsbury's

OFFER ENDS 21 NOVEMBER 1998. ALSO AVAILABLE AT SAINSBURY'S BRANCHES. PRODUCTS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. OFFER EXCLUDES SAINSBURY'S 'LOCAL'. SOME LINES AVAILABLE IN LARGER STORES ONLY. WE'D BE INTERESTED IN YOUR COMMENTS. WWW.SAINSBURY'S.CO.UK

### THE RIGHTS OF EVERY MAN

The Independent is publishing daily each of the 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, illustrated by Ralph Steadman, to mark its 50th anniversary on 10 December.



#### Article 9

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile

A pamphlet edition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is published by Waterstone's, price £1. Proceeds to the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

#### QUOTE OF THE DAY FROM CORBY

"As I hurtled through space, one thought kept crossing my mind - every part of this capsule was supplied by the lowest bidder."

John Glenn



Make every day a Corby trouser press day. So laughably quick and easy to use it will have you in cresses. Only a Corby, with its unique stretcher system, eases trousers back into shape and removes ugly back-of-tee wrinkles. Perfect results every time. Choose from a wide range of colours, with models starting from around £90 and all with a free 5 year guarantee. For a brochure and stockist list call free 0800 220 351.

CORBY TROUSER PRESS

ALLIERS • APOLLO 2000 • AUSTIN REED • BEATTIES • BENTALLS • CO-OP  
FENWICKS • HOUSE OF FRASER • JOHN LEWIS PARTNERSHIP • MILLER BROS  
POWERHOUSE • SCOTTISH POWER • ELECTRICITY PLUS

British Museum: First lines of 4,000-year-old poem reconstructed from material found in a storeroom

# Opening to oldest ever epic found

THE BEGINNING of the world's first truly great work of literature - the 4,000-year-old Mesopotamian Epic of Gilgamesh, the poem on which the story of Noah and the Flood was probably based - has been discovered in a British Museum storeroom.

Most of the opening two stanzas have been lost for the past 2,000 years but research in the museum has recovered vital elements of the first four lines of the epic.

Scholars have been able to reconstruct the first four lines as follows:

"He who saw all, who was the foundation of the land,  
"Who knew (everything),  
was wise in all matters."

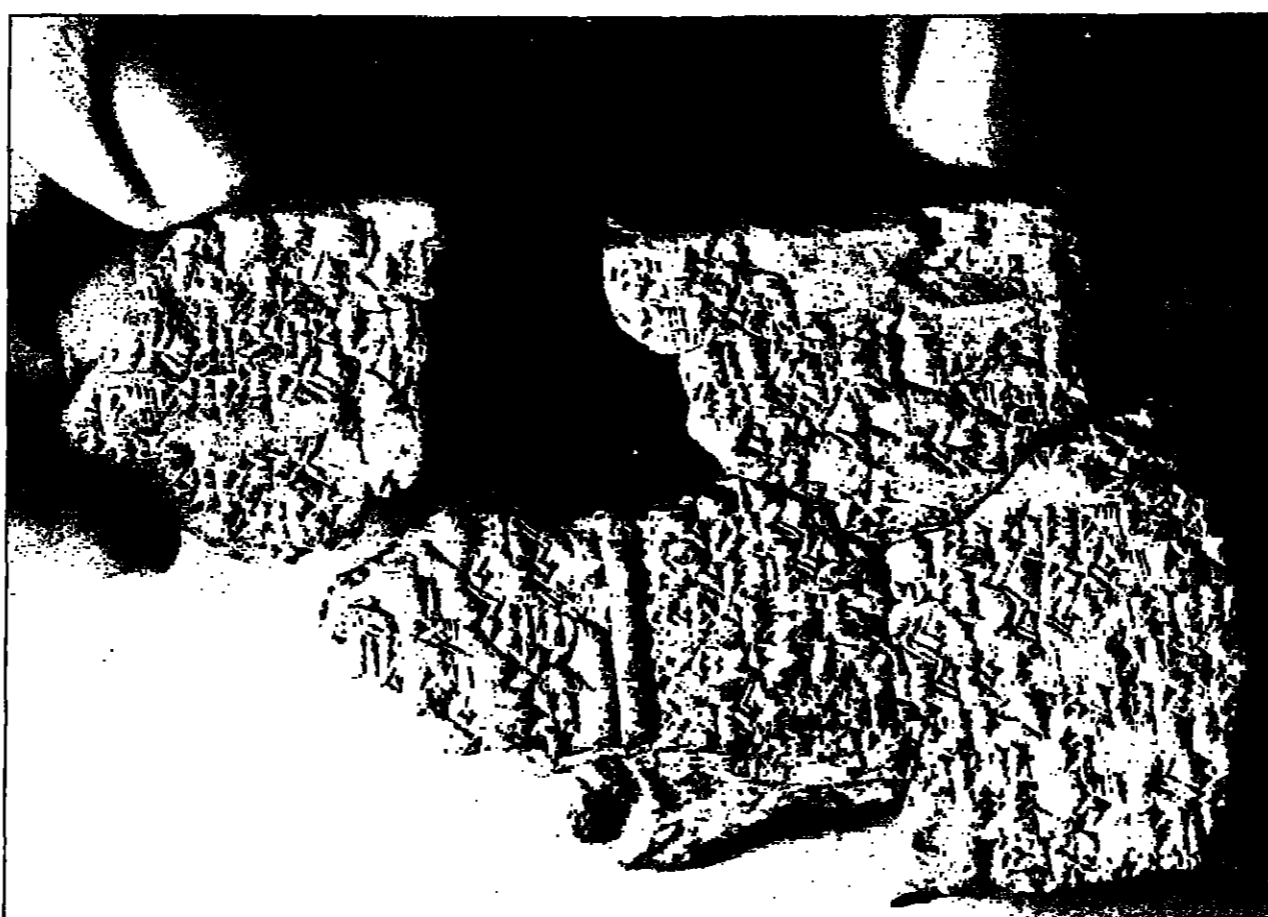
"Gilgamesh, who saw all, who was the foundation of the land,  
"Who knew (everything),  
was wise in all matters."

BY DAVID KEYS  
Archaeology Correspondent

was wise in all matters."

The discovery, made by Theodore Kwasman, a US expert on Mesopotamian language and script, is a key step towards a complete understanding of the 15,000-word work. First written out as a set of clay tablets by at least the 18th century BC, it was re-copied many times over the following two millennia. Hundreds of fragments of various editions of this set of tablets have been identified and fitted together like a giant jigsaw. But almost 20 per cent of the epic is still missing and a further 25 per cent is so fragmentary that it is only partially legible.

Nevertheless, archaeologists are confident that the entire jigsaw will be completed,



The newly identified beginning of the Epic of Gilgamesh being fitted on to the rest of the poem Nicola Kurtz

and that the work - known originally as *Surpassing All Other Kings* and later as *The One Who Saw All*, will once again be available in its entirety. Missing lines are being discovered in museum collections world-wide and in excavations in the Middle East at the rate of several dozen words a year. *The Epic of Gilgamesh* tells

the story of an early 3rd-millennium BC Sumerian (southern Mesopotamian) king who went in search of the secret of everlasting life - a secret held by the survivor of the great flood, the proto-Noah, who had become immortal.

The newly identified Gilgamesh "first-lines" fragment is actually from an edition of the

epic copied between 600BC and 100BC. The fragment was initially found in 1878, probably in the ruins of ancient Babylon either by commercial treasure hunters or by the British Museum's agent in Baghdad, Hormuzd Rassam, who 25 years earlier had helped the museum to excavate in what is now northern Iraq. At that stage no

body realised what it was, and it (with many other tablet fragments) was shipped by Rassam to the British Museum, where it was stored as a resource for scholars. The newly identified material will be included in a new translation of *The Epic of Gilgamesh* due to be published in February by Penguin Books in London.

## Treasure trove of man's history

IDENTIFICATION of the Gilgamesh fragment is only one of dozens of archaeological discoveries made every year - inside the British Museum.

Most people probably think of it as simply a vast collection of display cases filled with antiquities, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Only 1 per cent of the objects are on view. The rest - 7 million objects - are kept in storerooms and constitute the world's largest archaeological research collection.

Every year more than 10,000 scholars come from dozens of countries to carry out vital research work on this vast stored collection. The visiting scholars examine up to 250,000 items, while British Museum staff carry out research into thousands more.

Recent breakthroughs have included:

■ The discovery of the earliest sword blade made of so-called "crucible" extra-hard steel. Dating from the 7th century AD, it was identified using a metallographic microscope in the museum's research laboratory;

■ The discovery that the red enamel used for decorating treasures in Dark Age Britain was made from metallurgical waste products;

■ The revelation that a large fragment of ancient Egyptian manuscript was in fact the

BY DAVID KEYS

missing part of a papyrus in a French museum;

■ The identification of early coin forgeries and an understanding as to how they were forged;

■ And the discovery that Romano-Egyptian portraits were painted after death.

Objects are studied in great detail. Paint is analysed to discover the nature and source of pigments, and wooden items are sampled to find out what type of timber was used in their manufacture and where the timber might have originated from.

Residue stuck to the insides of ancient pots is examined to discover what individual ceramic vessels were used for. DNA from mummified bodies is used to trace family relationships, illuminating previously unknown aspects of history.

And, as in the Gilgamesh discovery, thousands of fragments of ancient writing tablets are studied to reconstruct texts last seen thousands of years ago.

As well as scholars from Britain and overseas, the stored collection also attracts members of the public doing their own research projects - everything from the investigation of ancient farming methods to the study of the development of textile technology.

### IN BRIEF

#### 'Road rage' extradition hearing

KENNETH NOYE, wanted by British police for questioning over the fatal stabbing of Stephen Cameron, 21, in May 1996 on a slip road off the M25 in Swanley, Kent, is due to appear in court in Spain today for the preliminary hearing of the extradition case against him. Mr Noye, 41, was arrested in Barbate in southern Spain in August. A date for the full extradition case is expected to be set today.

#### Chelsea coach on sex charge

THE FORMER England football international Graham Rix will appear in a London court next month charged with having sex with a girl under 16 and indecently assaulting her on three occasions, police said yesterday. Rix, 41, a former Arsenal player who won 17 caps, is now assistant manager at Chelsea.

#### Drugs charges after disco death

A 33-YEAR-OLD man is to appear in court today on charges relating to the supply and possession of drugs after a woman died after being taken ill at a disco on Saturday. She was named as Annette McCallum, 21, of Airdrie.

#### Cat registered as hairdresser

A LABOUR Euro MP wants to see the compulsory registration and licensing of hairdressers after a constituent was left bald when a perm went wrong. Peter Truscott said the recent registering of a cat, rabbit, and a dog as hairdressers also showed restrictions were needed.

#### Two share £6m lottery jackpot

TWO TICKET-HOLDERS shared Saturday's £6.1m lottery jackpot, Camelot said. The winning numbers were 7, 11, 12, 17, 23 and 39. The bonus ball was 42. A total of 42 people matched five numbers and the bonus ball to win £45,229.

Over 50?  
Insure your  
car for less



#### Low-cost motor insurance that's miles better

Saga Motor Insurance offers a range of carefully chosen options, such as free cover while you're driving in Europe; and an attractive 60% No-Claim Discount.

This high level of cover doesn't mean high cost. Quite the reverse, in fact.

Saga Motor Insurance is extremely competitive. We are dedicated to providing relevant, well-priced solutions for car owners aged 50 and over on the road and off.

For a motor insurance quotation or instant cover, why not call Saga?

0800 484 184

Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays, and 9am to 1pm Saturdays.

Saga Services would like to send you information on other Saga products and services and may pass on your details to other Saga companies for this purpose.

Now's the time SAGA

# Advent

## Even more power for your pound with DVD.

All Advent PCs are built to deliver high spec computing at prices that are stripped to the bone.

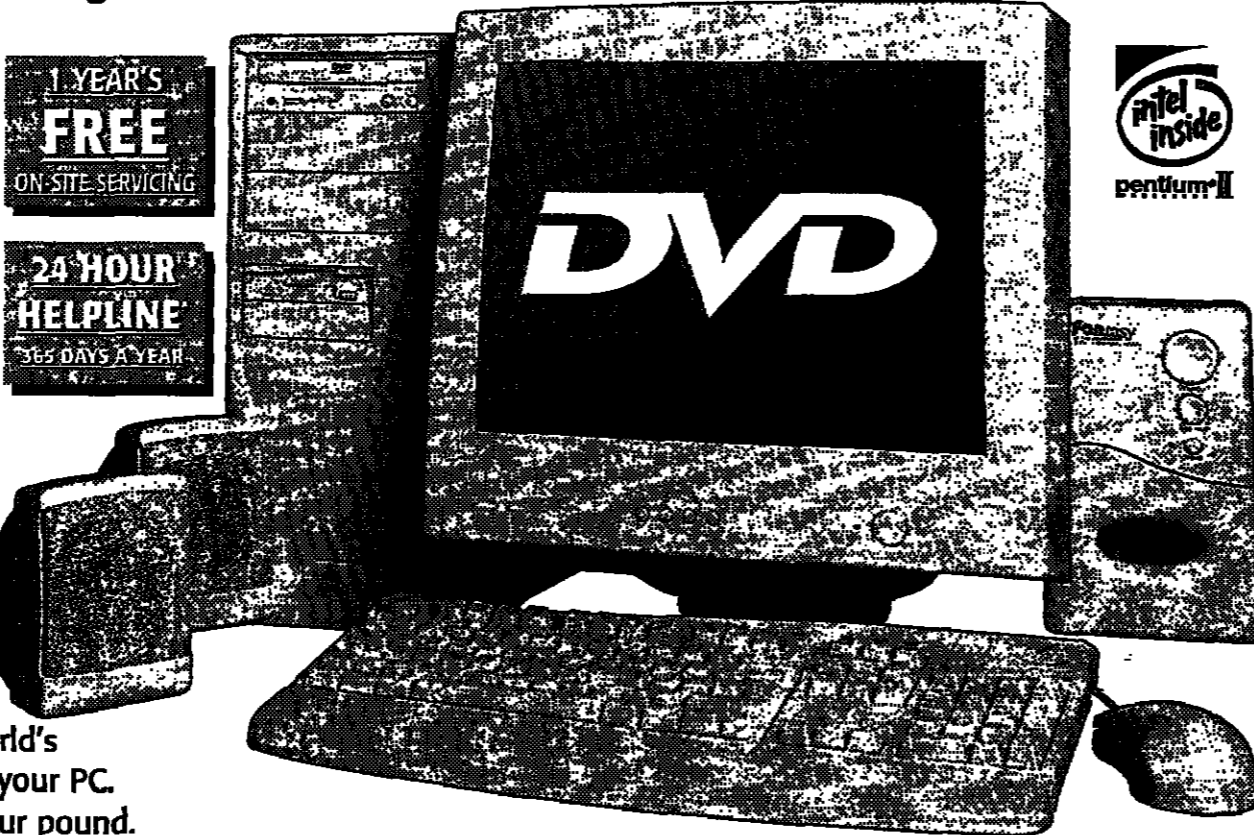
They're built with top brand components and they offer high performance multimedia capability and extensive space for upgrading.

One of the latest innovations in high performance is the introduction of the DVD drive. This is the new alternative to CD-ROM. Each DVD can store nearly 8 times the capacity of a CD, which means that you can run far more sophisticated programmes and games.

In fact, it can store a full length feature film and have room to spare. It's the future of computing and with Advent you can have it today at an unbelievable price.

Advent's after sales package is equally impressive. There's a FREE 1 year on-site service as standard. A helpline available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and the use of PC World's in-store technical centres to upgrade your PC.

It all adds up to more power for your pound.



### Advent DVD 350MHz

Intel Pentium II Processor

- 64Mb 100MHz SDRAM
  - 8.6Gb Seagate Hard Disk
  - Intel 440BX Chipset
  - DVD-ROM Drive
  - 64 Voice PCI H/W Wavetable, A3D Sound with Speakers
  - 8Mb 3D AGP ATI Rage Pro Graphics
  - 56kpbs V.90 Data/Fax Modem
  - 15" Colour Monitor
  - MS Windows 98 plus 5 software titles
  - 3 x ISA Slots; 3 x PCI Slots and 1 x AGP Slot
- MODEL: 8582  
INCLUDES 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE  
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

£899 EX VAT  
£1056.33 INC VAT

### Advent DVD 450MHz

Intel Pentium II Processor

- 64Mb 100MHz SDRAM
  - 8.6Gb Seagate Hard Disk
  - Intel 440BX Chipset
  - DVD-ROM Drive
  - 64 Voice PCI H/W Wavetable, A3D Sound with Speakers and Subwoofer
  - 8Mb 3D AGP ATI Rage Pro Graphics
  - 56kpbs V.90 Data/Fax Modem
  - 15" Colour Monitor
  - Joystick
  - MS Windows 98 plus MS Home Essentials 98 (Word 97, Works 4.5, Money 98, Encarta 98 World Atlas, Entertainments Pack and more.)
  - 3 x ISA Slots; 3 x PCI Slots and 1 x AGP Slot
- MODEL: 8652  
INCLUDES 12 MONTHS ON-SITE SERVICE  
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION!

£1099 EX VAT  
£1291.33 INC VAT

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464

■ ABERDEEN	■ DONCASTER	■ MANCHESTER	■ SELBY OAK
■ BIRMINGHAM	■ DUBLIN	■ MERRY HILL - DUDLEY	■ SHERFIELD
■ BOSTON	■ EAST KILBRIDE	■ NORTH SHIELDS	■ SLOUGH
■ BRADFORD	■ EDINBURGH	■ NORTHAMPTON	■ SOUTH HULL
■ (now open)	■ GATESHEAD	■ NORWICH	■ SOUTHAMPTON
■ BRISTOL	■ GLASGOW	■ NOTTINGHAM	■ SPRUCEFIELD
■ CANTERBURY	■ HUDDERSFIELD	■ OLDHAM	■ STOCKPORT
■ CARDIFF	■ HULL	■ PETERBOROUGH	■ STOKE
■ CHATHAM	■ IPSWICH	■ PORTSMOUTH	■ SWANSEA
■ CHESTER	■ LEEDS	■ POOLE	■ SWINDON
■ COLCHESTER	■ LINCOLN	■ PRESTON	■ TESSIDE
■ COVENTRY	■ LIVERPOOL	■ READING	■ TELFORD
■ DERBY			■ YORK
			■ STAPLES CORNER

# PC WORLD

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

ADVERTS to the Software Helpline are charged at a premium rate. Telephone orders will require a 10% deposit. Prices exclude cost of delivery, delivery charges from £15 including VAT. Phone lines are operational Monday-Friday 9am-6pm, Saturday 9am-5.30pm, Sunday 11am-5pm. Advent products cannot be directly ordered in the Republic of Ireland. UP TO 12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION. Account is interest free if repaid in full before the 12th monthly payment. Options are as follows: 9 months for products £700-£1,200 inc VAT; 12 months for products over £1,200 inc VAT. Typical example: Cash price £1,500 inc VAT, 12% deposit of £180, 11 monthly payments of £140.44. Balance of £249.56 to be paid before or with the 12th payment, plus interest. Total paid £1,500 inc VAT. OR SPREAD THE COST WITH AN MONTHLY REPAYMENT. Typical example: £1,500 inc VAT, 12% deposit of £180, 48 monthly payments of £45.64. Total amount paid £2,340.72 inc VAT. All loans subject to status. No Deposit Credit Option available in-store. Western Credit quotations are available on request from: Dept. MK/PCN, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7LG. The Intel Inside logo, Pentium and MMX are Registered Trademarks of the Intel Corporation. Advent PCs are year 2000 compliant. This is in accordance with British Standard BS2000-1.

John 11/15/98

# Malaysia summit hit by protests

PROTESTERS AND indignant foreign leaders piled pressure on the Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad yesterday as he prepared to host a Pacific Rim summit against a backdrop of civil unrest.

Anti-government protesters mounted three demonstrations in the capital in less than 24 hours, highlighting the depth of discontent with Dr Mahathir's rule and his opponents' determination to defy a police ban on public gatherings.

Police fired tear gas and water cannon yesterday to break up a demonstration by about 200 supporters of Malaysia's sacked finance minister, Anwar Ibrahim, calling on Dr Mahathir to resign.

The 21 members of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum (Apec) range from the United States, Japan and Russia to Vietnam, Peru and Papua New Guinea. Apec's goal is the establishment of free trade throughout the region by 2020.

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY in Jakarta

The group's star performer, President Bill Clinton, cancelled his attendance over the weekend to deal with the crisis over Iraq, and called back from Kuala Lumpur his Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright.

The Indonesian president, B.J. Habibie, plans to attend, although on Friday Indonesian troops shot dead more than a dozen people in the centre of Jakarta. The following day, mobs destroyed shops and banks and bandits held up cars on the road to the airport. Yesterday, there were persistent rumours that Dr Habibie faces a possible military coup.

Dr Mahathir, the summit's host, is facing a political crisis over the sacking of his former deputy, Mr Anwar, who is standing trial for alleged corruption and sex crimes, charges which are widely suspected of being trumped up.

His treatment by Dr Ma-



Protesters on the streets of Kuala Lumpur yesterday give Apec leaders a clear message to go home

Upali Aturugiri/AFP

hathir, and a beating up at the hands of the police, has provoked rage at home and abroad.

Ms Albright met Mr Anwar's wife, Wan Azizah. She also met Malaysia's trade minister, Rafi-

dah Aziz. The pair sparred with each other at a news conference. Ms Albright said that Washington was concerned about Mr Anwar's chances getting a fair trial. Mr Rafidah shot back: "Maybe if I go to the

States, I would like to meet Ken Starr," referring to the special prosecutor investigating President Clinton. "But he is not in prison," Ms Albright snapped. Apec's principal goal is free trade but Dr Mahathir has de-

fied Western economic orthodoxy by introducing currency controls. Having established himself as an Apec undesirable, Dr Mahathir is in no position to do what summit hosts need to do - nudge the participants

into reaching an agreement. But Apec leaders will have a much simpler ambition this week: to get through their meeting without any major diplomatic squabbles, large scale riots or coups d'etat.

## Mating cod put navy in danger

BY MARCUS TANNER

HUGE NUMBERS of grunting cod have been blamed by a team of Norwegian scientists for posing an unexpected security risk to the Scandinavian country's military security.

According to a recent analysis that has been produced for the navy, millions of tiny grunting sounds emitted by the cod during the mating season can create a background noise loud enough to blot out sounds of suspicious maritime activity.

The cod make their grunt-like sounds approximately every 80 seconds in order to lure their mates. And the number of fish is vast - Norway's seas are famous for the huge schools during the mating season.

The study by the Norwegian Defence Research Institute said the millions of fish grunts are overloading naval sonar systems and masking sound waves that sonar transmits in order to detect objects underwater. The result is that it is almost impossible to navigate safely under the cold waters of the Norwegian Sea.

The study concluded that naval vessels would be well advised to steer clear of the region when cod spawning is at its height in February and March. The scientists used a spectral analyser to break down the background noise picked up by sonar techniques designed to register enemy submarines.

At this stage, the Norwegians say they have no answer to the problem but to advise their submarines to avoid all known spawning grounds at the appropriate times of year.

"This is the first time we have registered the frequency of sounds from wild cod," researcher Erling Kjellsby is quoted as telling Norway's largest newspaper, *Verdens Gang*. "The noise of cod looking for partners ruins the listening conditions."

## Kurds converge on Rome to demand freedom for PKK chief

THOUSANDS OF Kurds are converging on Rome to press the government to grant political asylum to Abdullah Ocalan, the leader of the outlawed Kurdish Workers Party, the PKK.

Mr Ocalan was arrested at Rome airport last Thursday after arriving on a flight from Moscow. The Turkish government is demanding his extra-

dition to face charges of murder and terrorist activities. The PKK has waged a 14-year war with Turkey for autonomy in the south-east of the country.

Around 1,500 Kurds, many from northern Europe, have occupied the square in front of the

Celio military hospital, where it was thought Mr Ocalan was being held. They had come from Switzerland, Germany, France, Belgium and even Sweden.

Young men in uniform black leather jackets and jeans and older ones in suits waved the red, yellow and green Kurdish flag and held aloft poster-sized photographs of Mr Ocalan, known as

Apo, or Uncle. Women chanted "Freedom for Apo, freedom for Kurdistan". One of the organisers, Ahmed, of Bonn, said they expected to draw 10,000 Kurds to Rome. "We will stay here until Apo is granted asylum," he said. "The [Italian] government must not bow to the threats of the Turks."

The Turkish Foreign Minis-

ter, Ismail Cem, in Rome yesterday, urged his Italian counterpart, Lamberto Dini, not to side with what he said were terrorists. Relations between the two countries are already strained by a recent decision of the Italian authorities to allow a meeting in Rome of the Kurdish parliament-in-exile.

The hard-left parties and

the Greens want Mr Ocalan to be granted political refugee status and the main party of government, the left-of-centre Democratico della Sinistra, are reluctant to surrender him.

Italy's constitution prohibits repatriation to any country which allows the death penalty, as Turkey does. Germany also has an arrest warrant for

the PKK leader but has not yet presented an extradition request. If it did, it would be hard for Italy to refuse.

The circumstances of Mr Ocalan's arrival are still unclear. He was arrested as soon as he stepped off an aircraft from Russia, where he had been seeking asylum after fleeing his hideout in Syria.

## Perfect Arctic Conditions. £199 a month.



Don't get left out in the cold because you can pick up a Vectra Arctic with Air Conditioning and a whole range of other goodies for just £199 a month. It's also available with £1000 towards the deposit on a new car purchased on Choices 123! Time then to get your skates on.

- Air Conditioning • Alloy Wheels • Tinted Glass
- Metallic Paint • Tilt Steering Column • Rev Counter • Electric Front Windows • Front Fog Lights • Lumbar Support

### FINANCE: STEP CHOICES 123

Period in Months	36	Then 11 monthly payments	£251.91
On the road price	£14,695	Charge for credit*	£3,330.69
Deposit	£4,227.20	Final payment to buy**	£5,922
1st 12 Months	£199	Total amount payable	£18,025.69
2nd 12 Months	£221.04	APR	13.9%

Contact Vauxhall on  
**0345 400 800**  
www.vauxhall.co.uk



\*FINANCE DEPOSIT APPLIES TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, NON VAT REGISTERED BUSINESSES & MOBILITY AND IS AVAILABLE ON ALL VECTRA MODELS ORDERED BETWEEN 21/09/98 AND 31/12/98. FINANCE DEPOSIT ALLOWANCE APPLIES TO Vauxhall BRANDED CHOICES 123 (TYPICAL APR 13.9%). WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE FROM Vauxhall FINANCE, 19 CHAPEL STREET, LUTON. SUBJECT TO STATUS, AVAILABILITY AND CONDITIONS. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. \*\*INCLUDES £100 CREDIT FEE AND £55 CREDIT ARRANGEMENT FEE, BOTH PAYABLE WITH THE 1ST PAYMENT AND ARE INCLUDED IN THE CHARGES FOR CREDIT. \*\*BASED ON AGREED MILEAGE 9000 MILES PER ANNUM. CONDITIONS APPLY.

مكتبة النور

# Death Row survivors call for abolition

BY ANDREW GUMBEL  
in Los Angeles

"MY NAME is Joseph Burrows," the speaker told his emotional audience. "The state of Illinois sought to kill me for a murder I did not commit. I was put on Death Row in 1989. I was released in 1994. If the state had its way, I'd be dead today."

One by one, Mr Burrows and 27 other former prisoners addressed the National Conference on Wrongful Convictions and the Death Penalty at Chicago's Northwestern University at the weekend.

Each stated how he or she had been put on Death Row, sometimes for 15 or 20 years, before being exonerated and released. Every former prisoner placed a sunflower in a vase. When the ceremony was over, they broke down in tears and offered each other hugs.

The conference was the first formal gathering of former Death Row inmates, and the largest convention on capital punishment since the United States resumed judicial executions 21 years ago.



Former Death Row inmates who were later cleared of their alleged crimes say many more innocent people have been put to their deaths in the US *Michael S. Green/AP*

With more than 1,000 lawyers and civil rights activists in attendance, the conference focused on 75 documented cases of overturned death sentences and examined the possibility that scores more people may have

been executed for crimes they did not commit.

The United States has put almost 500 people to death since 1977. Another 3,500 await execution. Many states, such as Texas, have drastically increased the pace of executions.

A report by the human rights group Amnesty International stated: "For more than two decades judges and legislators in the US have struggled with - and failed to resolve - the central paradox of the death penalty: how to impose an

irreversible punishment fairly and accurately, while ensuring that the sentence is carried out without delay.

"There is clear and convincing evidence that this attempt to balance fairness and finality has now been abandoned, sacrificed for the sake of political expediency."

Among the speakers at the conference was Rubin Carter, the former prize-fighter convicted for a triple murder in Paterson, New Jersey, and later the subject of one of Bob

Dylan's most famous protest songs, *Hurricane*. Mr Carter, who was sentenced before the reintroduction of capital punishment, and exonerated after 19 years behind bars, now directs an association in Toronto that fights wrongful

convictions. "There is no separation between being on Death Row or being held unjustly for the rest of your life," he said. "Prison is death."

In its report, Amnesty analysed the reasons for wrongful death sentences: the inadequacy of court-appointed defence lawyers, misconduct by prosecutors seeking a conviction at all costs, an over-reliance on testimony from jail informants who receive favours for their co-operation, and racial bias, particularly in the South.

Amnesty, which is campaigning against human rights abuses in the US, also criticised the superior courts for focusing solely on procedural issues and allowing death sentences to stand even when compelling new evidence came forward in favour of the defendant.

It also highlighted the anguish of being confined in a tiny cell, a few feet away from the execution chamber for years on end, "listening" in the words of former Florida inmate, Shaksara Brown, "to that chair being tested twice a day and knowing it was being done in your honour".

## Quiet heroes of Honduran relief effort

KLAAS RIEMER, a farmer from the former British colony of Belize, is one of the quiet heroes of the Hurricane Mitch disaster that struck neighbouring Honduras and much of Central America.

Like all Belizeans, Canadian-born Mr Riemer was braced for Mitch, the fourth-strongest hurricane recorded, to hit his adopted country at the end of last month and wipe out his crops. With the help of locally-based British troops and a visiting force of Royal Marines, Belizeans abandoned their coastal homes and battered down the hatches in inland shelters.

When the tempest stopped just off Belize's renowned coral reef, Mr Riemer thanked God but was concerned that someone else was going to get the brunt. He was right. Honduras was devastated.

That was why Mr Riemer was in this northern Honduran town yesterday with a large plane-load of food grown on his farm for his neighbours.

I was standing on the airstrip trying to hitch a ride on a US military cargo aircraft when I saw Mr Riemer unload sacks of food from a DC-4 airliner chartered by an aid group called Operation Belize Mercy.

As a result of rumours that foreign aid was falling into the hands of Honduran businessmen allied with the military, Mr Riemer was taking no chances. He personally supervised the transfer of his homegrown Californian red kidney beans and rice on to a Honduran army lorry.

Then he and a locally-based American Baptist minister, David Harms, escorted their load to Chapagua, a flood-stricken village an hour's drive away. "This way we know it's really getting to those who need it," Pastor Harms said.

"These containers have been here for a week, brim full of food," said Mr Riemer, gesturing to eight container trailers parked by the airstrip, most containing international food aid. "If I go with my own stuff, I know it's going to reach its destination."

They were alluding to reports that some of the food may be being diverted to profiteering businessmen.

While an estimated 9,000lbs of basic foods had arrived here over the five days preceding my visit, many surrounding vil-

BY PAUL DAVISON  
in Trujillo, Honduras

lagers reported that they had received none.

After Mr Riemer and the pastor left with their load, an evening meeting of the local crisis committee in a motel next to the airstrip offered some interesting revelations. Taking part were the local military chief, Colonel Jose Geronimo Barahona, Trujillo's Bishop, Virgilio Lopez, the provincial governor and other dignitaries.

They came to the conclusion that a local American businessman, a mahogany furniture dealer, was their immediate problem. They said he was behind an Internet campaign which alleged that foreign food aid was being diverted with military collusion. His motivation? He had tried to buy up some local land but had been thwarted by squatters and was now wreaking his revenge. The amiable-looking Col Barahona told visiting foreign reporters not to fall for "propaganda".

"Superslow" (super slow), replied Priscillo Ortiz, a resident of the isolated village of La Barra de Aguan, when asked how the aid distribution was working. With no help from the authorities or the military, she organised a trip to her village carrying food and clothes first by road in a small van, then by lorry before transferring to canoes and then volunteers' shoulders on a three-hour odyssey that included the risk of alligator attack.

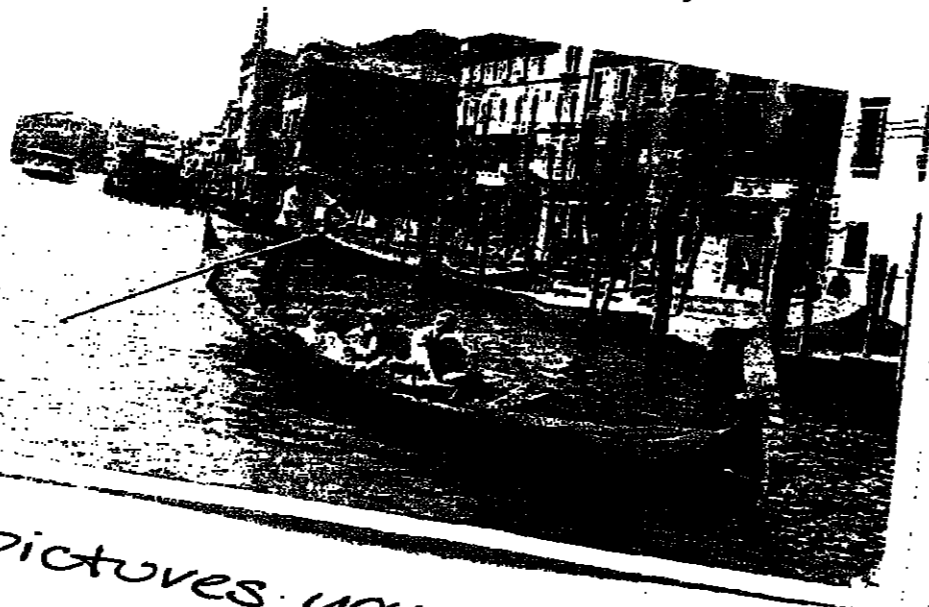
Some Trujillo residents I spoke to suggested La Barra had been ignored because its residents were black, or perhaps because the fishing village was reputed to be a major transit point for Colombian cocaine.

In La Barra, where scores of homes were swept from their foundations into the Atlantic, residents wandered around, tending their surviving cows or pigs and sleeping in the homes of luckier neighbours.

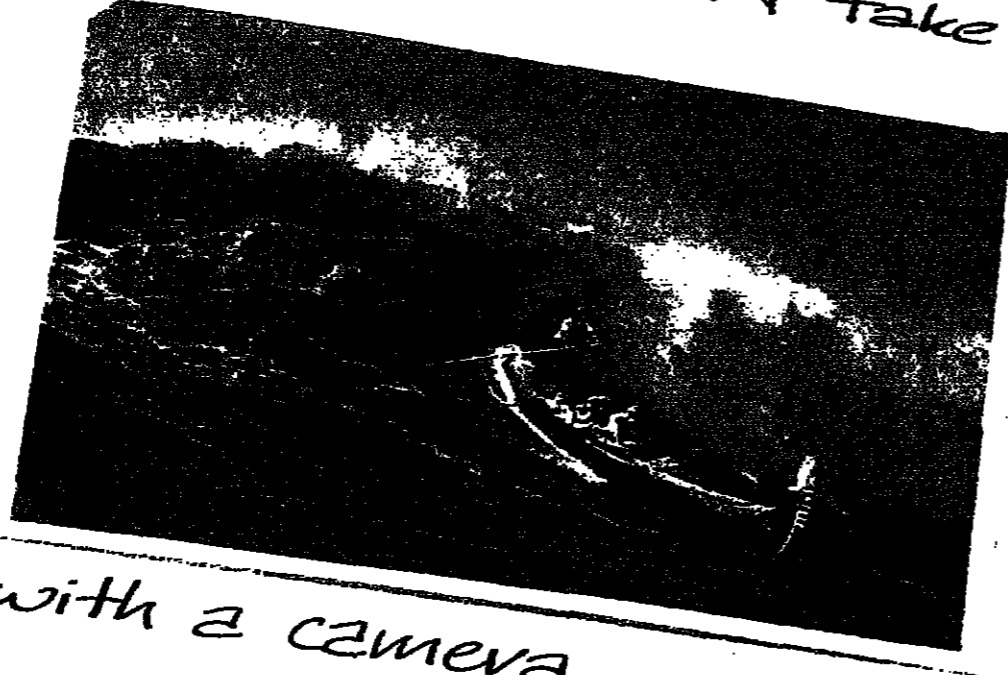
With the village and its former roads now a string of islands in an extension of the ocean, farmers went to and fro in simple wooden canoes carved from single tree trunks - some of them leading their struggling, swimming cows behind them across the light brown floodwaters.



Canon now offer you



Pictures you can't take



with a camera.

1: Take photos with a Canon Sure Shot camera. 2: Have photos developed. 3: Scan photos into your PC using CanoScan scanner. 4: Manipulate and enhance photos using free software included. 5: Print photos on Canon Bubble Jet printer. 6: Repeat steps 1-5 as often as your imagination/sense of humour allows. Now, raise eyebrows, stroke chin and freephone 0500 747 411 for all the technical stuff.

**Canon**  
www.canon.co.uk

YOU AND  
CANON CAN.

THE INDEPENDENT

**CENTRAL AMERICA  
HURRICANE APPEAL**

Organised by  
**Disasters Emergency Committee**  
representing 15 major charities

Donations to:  
Independent Appeal  
Disasters Emergency Committee  
52 Great Portland Street  
London W1N 5AH

or call:  
0870 6060900  
for credit card  
donations

مكتبة الجليل







## HELPLINE

DANIEL ROBINSON

## The cussing computer

Warning: this educational software may spew a barrage of obscenities at your children. By Iain Aitch

One can only imagine the rude words that must have gone through the minds of the executives at Panasonic Interactive Media in the US, upon discovering that their latest piece of educational software was swearing like a navy at the children it was supposed to be teaching to write.

Panasonic's Secret Writer's Society aims to help seven- to nine-year-olds with their writing by using a voice simulation to read back the compositions they have written. The problem occurs when the child writes a short passage and then impatiently double-clicks while waiting for the message to be read back. They are then treated to a barrage of obscen-

ities from the filter that has been put into the program to stop children typing in bad words just for the fun of having them read back to them.

Panasonic became aware of the problem after receiving a write-up on Superkids, a specialist website which reviews educational software. Superkids urged parents not to buy the program, warning them that it "may shout obscenities at your child". They liked the "cute songs and nice animation"; they did not like the fact that it called their reviewer an "asshole". The staff at Superkids contacted Panasonic, which duly posted a warning on their Secret Writer's Society website and offered free replacements to those parents who were subjected to the profanity.

Panasonic had put the problem

down to a bug in the bad language filter and must have been tempted to reel off a string of cuss words themselves when it was announced last week that the swearing was the work of a rogue programmer. The programmer, who wishes to remain anonymous, claims that his action was a wake-up call to parents who are happy to let a machine take charge of their children's education.

"No program can replace the family," he explains. "But people have this awe of technology. They think it can do better than they can. I wanted to wake parents up to reality - here's what happens if you hand your responsibility to some machine."

The programmer was rewarded for this action with \$1,000 from Rtmak, a group that funds sabotage

and creative crimes against corporations. Rtmak has also previously funded a similar piece of subversive programming, in which homo-erotic scenes were inserted into the Maxis game SimCopter. The game was recalled and the programmer sacked after scenes with semi-clad, kissing men were discovered.

Ray Thomas, a spokesman for Rtmak, says that they agreed to fund the programmer as his actions helped to "raise consciousness about corporate abuse". On the question of exposing children to bad language Thomas says: "We at Rtmak have mixed feelings about this, but this meets our bottom-line criterion of being an anti-corporate critique or attack, and not causing physical injury."

Panasonic maintains that the

swearing was caused by a bug, which it has now fixed. "Our producer himself put in a buffer, and we tested it, but evidently we didn't test it well enough," says Elizabeth Olson, Panasonic's communications manager. "To our knowledge there is no truth to this claim. [Rtmak] seem to be claiming responsibility for something they didn't have anything to do with."

Thomas is not surprised by Panasonic's reaction. He says the company is unlikely to acknowledge this sort of action "because it's much more disturbing to customers and, perhaps especially, shareholders, if it's not a random, relatively controllable thing like a bug, but rather the product of malice. It could be that they really do think it's a bug."

Software developers may well

need to be extra vigilant as Rtmak steps up its campaigns of infiltration and subversion, with the lure of cash incentives for those with the wherewithal to carry out specific tasks. Rtmak is currently offering \$400 to anyone who can substitute the pictures of the Spice Girls in Viewmaster slides with naked photographs of now-departed Ginger Spice, Geri Halliwell. In both cases the goods must actually make it to the shops for maximum embarrassment to the companies targeted.

The most worrying thing about this case for companies is that the "hacker" is no longer an anonymous geek at the end of a phone line. They are now in the workplace, where it is far easier for them to throw a spanner in the works.

I WORK with Windows 3.11 and do all my word processing with Works for Windows 3. I have no problem converting files to other formats and sending them as attachments to e-mail, but when I receive attachments in Word or WordPerfect I cannot read them. If I do get them on the screen, I am confronted with gibberish.

I suspect that this version of Works for Windows simply has out-of-date file import filters. Every version of Microsoft Word saves files with a .DOC extension, even though the file format has changed several times since that version was released. You can either upgrade Works for Windows, or make sure that people send you documents in a file format it understands - something like Word for Windows 2.0 or WordPerfect 5.1.

IS IT possible for multiple users to have access to one Microsoft Outlook account on Windows NT, so that the Outlook is not for an individual on the network but rather a common identity that any user has access to?

No, Outlook is only a single-user application. But it can be used as a front-end client to Microsoft's Exchange Server, which would run on your NT server and function as the central point for all your e-mail. Each user would still have to have their own user name and password, but Exchange allows for public folders which can contain shared information.

ON THE Apple Mac, it is very easy to copy any image on to a file icon, but I have been unable to find out how to do this in Windows 95. I would like to add an image to some of my HTML file icons. Can you help?

Windows 95 can have any image for file icons, but there is no built-in way to translate the contents of an image file into its own "thumbnail" icon. There is an option in Windows 98 for this, but Windows 95 users are out of luck, unless you want to buy a third-party program such as Visioneer's Visual Explorer document manager.

Daniel Robinson is technical editor of PC Direct magazine. Send questions to Helpline, Network, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 3DL or e-mail to network@independent.co.uk with Helpline in the subject field.

## MY TECHNOLOGY: PADDY ASHDOWN

## Want a politician's ear? E-mail him

I use my e-mail three or four times a day, as there are about 500 to 600 people in the Lib Dems on e-mail, as well as most of our MPs. We have two e-mail numbers; one through which staff can contact me, and another for the general public to make use of.

I do a lot of communication with key people, and certainly with people in my office, using e-mail. My secretary finds it easier to work with and I am probably easier to work with this way as well. For instance, when I am away we send documents backwards and forwards.

I began to use e-mail 10 years ago when it was in its infancy and we ran my leadership campaign on e-mail. And recently we set up the Liberal Democrat conference system.

I have always believed politics is about communication, and e-mail is an additional means to communicate. I would find it virtually impossible to meet the demands and commitments of my role as an MP without e-mail. I'd probably have to sleep less! I can use it anywhere at any time, and it's a much more efficient means of communication than the telephone.

And - because members of the Liberal Democrats have access to a common conferencing system - it enables me to participate in party-wide discussions, revise speeches or draft letters - whether I'm in Aberdeen or Albania.

I can attach my mobile phone and communicate with staff and colleagues via e-mail from a bus or train as easily as from my office. I use a palmtop (an HP200LX), which travels with me everywhere I go, carrying it in my pocket, and it's used on a daily basis.



Paddy Ashdown is no stranger to technology - he's been using e-mail for 10 years

Iain Newton

"It's a fabulous machine; the disadvantage is it's MS-DOS, not Windows-compatible. I was brought up on MS-DOS, however, and I prefer using it anyway."

"It carries my e-mail, my fax machine, and it has all my personal databases; spreadsheet programmes; my election-fighting programme; an election package which lets me put in the opinion polls and get a read-out; a French translator; and all the maps of Britain and France."

"It's an absolutely magnificent machine, and I couldn't do without it. I also have a Compaq laptop which enables me to access the Internet. And a pager. So I am pretty well contactable anywhere."

Certainly, the Liberal Democrats were the first political party to really use this technology. And the Liberal Democrats were the first to use such technology in a general election. I acted as a consultant to the initial election program which enables the details of the electoral roll to be placed online.

Personally, I have had a fascination with technology since getting my first computer back in 1980. These days, computers play a vital role in every field of working life.

"I have been saying for more than a decade that technology will change literally everything about our lives - technology will change the way that we run our work; technology will change the way that we do business; and technology will change all the inter-relationships of our society."

INTERVIEW BY JENNIFER RODGER

Paddy Ashdown's e-mail address is: paddyashdown@icr

## EXCLUSIVE CD-ROM FAMILY GAMES

**3D & SOUND - PLAY THE PC OR FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

**SCRABBLE**

- 3 skill levels
- Scrabble Dictionary
- American & English spelling

Price: £29.95

**BRIDGE CHAMPION**

- Omar Sharif commentary
- Developed by the World's Greatest Players
- Beginners' tutorials

Price: £29.95

**SHANGHAI DYNASTY MAH-JONG**

- Classic game of Mah-Jong
- Plus Shanghai, Pandemonium, Dynasty and Shanghai for Kids

Price: £24.95 + FREE EXTRA LEVELS WORTH £9.95

**HUTCHINSON ENCYCLOPEDIA**

**FREE**

(WORTH £9.95) WITH 2 TITLES OR MORE

TO ORDER CALL **01865 888 900**

THIS SELECTION EXCLUSIVE TO DREAM DIRECT - FREE 16 PAGE CATALOGUE  
VISA • MASTERCARD • SWITCH • DELTA • R4A81

1 per cent cash back on all purchases paid to card only (not cash on delivery) subject to credit check

Dream Direct Ltd., 4 Aristotle Lane, Kingston Road, Oxford OX2 6TY

## WEBSITES

BILL PANNIFER

## HRH goes http, photos inc

The Prince of Wales  
<http://www.princeofwales.gov.uk/>

A day after launch, the Prince of Wales's new site has accumulated 1.75 million hits. Linked to, but independent of the monarchy (<http://www.royal.gov.uk/>), the new online presence is meant as a platform for direct communication with the public. The voluminous, 354-page production includes a biography, picture gallery and continuously updated details of HRH's activities, while the design, from the Press Association's new media division, is gimmick-free and efficient, rather than palatial. The most useful aspect may be the fully indexed database of the Prince's speeches and articles. An Online Forum solicits visitors' views: selected e-mails are posted at the site, though, of course, "it will not be possible to respond individually".

The China Society for Human Rights Studies  
<http://www.humanrights-china.org/>

A bracingly different perspective, or just rhetorical hot air? Plenty of both in this intriguing Chinese account, official in all but name, of its human rights record. Less a website than a filing



Pay a right royal visit to the Prince of Wales's site

cabinet, these pages tend to emphasise "subsistence" and "state sovereignty" as human rights above all others, along with the expected counter-critique of the USA's own failings. Some of the arguments are persuasive, and even aspects of the party line on Tibet, criticising those who want the country to remain a "museum culture" for tourist purposes, might seem seductive - were it not for the reality on the ground. For a critical view on the same subject, try Human Rights in China, <http://www.hrc.org/>.

Heinz@Home  
<http://www.heinz.co.uk/>  
A canned history of Britain since 1886 is among the goodies on show at this technically ambitious,

multi-layer site for Heinz in the UK. The closing years of Queen Victoria are evoked by Mr Heinz's first sale at Portnum and Masons while on a trip from the US, and his Zelig-like spirit hovers over key events of the 20th century. Lots of nutritional advice, too, and an online ordering service, Heinz Direct, starts next month, but a "Baby Hamper" (soft food and Farley's Rusks) can already be purchased online for £29.99 and delivered to, say, Afghanistan, for an additional £75.

Reality Check  
<http://www.realitycheck.co.uk/>  
This newly-launched forum is a rather self-conscious crusade to raise the level of online debate. Participants

are required to stay with the conversation for at least four weeks, and the exchanges take place in small, manageable, and it is hoped, friendly groups. It is subject-specific and free of charge. Visitors are allowed to lurk and "listen", but not to contribute until they sign up. The non-profit group behind the site aims to enable risk-taking debate rather than what it calls "drive-by postings" - quite a challenge when the first topic is the Clinton scandal.

Welcome to the New and Improved Amazing ComCam!

<http://www.accomyst.com/co.htm>

"TuCows" is the name of a famously useful software download site. But this page, promoting a rural US access provider, really is just two cows, standing around in a muddy field. A couple of Jerseys - as in New Jersey - here patrol their paddock beneath the all-seeing Web camera. Africanist this is not, yet despite the lack of drama, Hamburger and Cheeseburger ("no sense having cute names when you plan on eating 'em") claim to have generated some 450,000 hits.

Send interesting, quirky or, at a pinch, cool web site recommendations to [websites@dircom.co.uk](mailto:websites@dircom.co.uk)

## 2 for 1 flight offers and Caribbean holidays.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1) All entrants must be 18 years of age or over. 2) No photocopies of tokens will be accepted and proof of posting will not confirm entry. We are not able to accept responsibility for items lost or damaged in the post. 3) No purchase necessary. Missing tokens can be obtained by a request to the editor enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, specifying the tokens that you require. 4) This offer entitles the voucher holder to book two tickets for the price of one at applicable fares for this promotion. 5) Passengers must travel together on all segments of the journey to qualify. Applicable taxes must be charged on each ticket. Varying numbers of seats will be allocated to each fare type and to each destination. The free ticket must be booked in the same class as the qualifying ticket. 6) Purchase of a child or infant ticket does not qualify the holder to receive 2 for 1. 7) All bookings must be made between 23 November and 11 December 1998. Travel must commence between 1 January and 30 June 1999. No travel commences from London between 1 February and 14 February 1999. 20 March and 3 April 1999, 22 May and 30 May 1999 or from the Caribbean between 17 February and 28 February 1999, 4 April and 16 April 1999, 1 June and 9 June 1999. Payment must be made in full at the time of booking. Certain conditions apply to the purchased fare which may require Advanced Purchase or Instant Purchase, or have refund and change restrictions. Any conditions applicable to the purchased ticket will also apply to the 2 for 1 ticket. 8) The voucher is only valid if it has been acquired in accordance with the rules of this promotion and is used to purchase 2 tickets for the price of one on flights operated by BWIA International Airways Limited. Connected flights are not eligible. 9) Schedules are subject to change without notice and neither BWIA, nor any of its partners will be liable for any loss incurred as a result of such changes. 10) The voucher is non-transferable and has a redemption value of £0.001p. No cash or credit alternative is available. 11) The named voucher holder must sign the voucher when purchasing the ticket and designate on the voucher the name of the accompanying passenger. 12) These vouchers may not be applied to existing bookings. 13) Vouchers are limited to one per address. 14) Vouchers may be redeemed with local IATA approved travel agents or by calling BWIA on 0181-677-1100. 15) The voucher can be used only on the purchase of flight tickets at selected published air fares, and fares in V class are excluded from this offer. 16) Voucher holders must advise at the time of booking that they wish to use the voucher, and the voucher must be attached to the audit coupon of the free flight ticket. 17) Tickets may be issued by an IATA designated travel agent or BWIA. 18) The published airfares applicable at the time of booking must be used, and BWIA reserves the right to adjust its published tariff at any time. 19) Schedules vary according to the destination selected and connecting services may be required to be used on either BWIA or LIAI. In all cases the applicable tariff regulation pertaining to the published air fare must be adhered to. 20) This offer may not be used in conjunction with any other promotion or discount, and may not be used in conjunction with any award from BWIA's Frequent Flyer Scheme. Frequent Flyer miles may only be earned on the qualifying full fare ticket. 21) BWIA reserves the right to control and amend the terms of this promotion, and all flight tickets issued under this promotion without notice in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of BWIA, including but not limited to, war, earthquakes, other major natural catastrophes, actual or anticipated or alleged breach of any applicable law or any other similar event. 22) Vouchers that are altered, defaced or tampered with, or any voucher that is signed by anyone other than the person named on the voucher will become invalid. BWIA reserves the right to confiscate any tickets issued with an invalid voucher, and the right to recover the full applicable fare from the ticket holder. By signing the voucher the passenger will be deemed to have accepted in full these Terms and Conditions. 23) All tickets are sold subject to BWIA's Conditions of Contract (shown on flight tickets) and BWIA's General Conditions of Carriage. 24) Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery. The promoters accept no responsibility for tokens, vouchers, flight tickets or other documentation lost or delayed in the post. 25) Passengers will be responsible for supplying their own travel insurance, valid passports and visas where required. It is strongly recommended that full travel and cancellation insurance is taken out by all passengers prior to the purchase of the tickets. 26) This accommodation offer is valid for dates of stay from 1st January until 30th June 1999. All 27) This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. 28) All per person rates quoted are based on two adults sharing a standard twin or double room only and the flight offer is subject to the Airlines own terms and conditions as stated. 29) All monies paid to BWIA are non-refundable and so it is advised that adequate insurance cover is obtained for your trip. 30) Subject to final approval from the UK Civil Aviation Authority. 31) This promotion is independent of the laws of England and Wales. The promoters are: BWIA and Independent Newspapers.



## SPORT

Badminton: Steve Baddeley must develop a fresh image for the sport if England is to challenge the world's best

## The art of shuttlecock diplomacy

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

THINK BADMINTON. And what do you think of? A game played in a village hall, tip-tap, tip-tap? Or do you perhaps recall the recent occasions when the game has earned coverage in the popular press - Jo Muggeridge pouring a can of Coke over the head of her national coach after being left out of the England squad? Or, earlier this month, the impromptu cricket game played with brooms and cleaning equipment in a toilet at the Dutch Open by two lively-and-emotional English players who have subsequently been suspended? Somewhere in the middle is the kind of image with which the Badminton Association of England would prefer the sport to be associated - 11 medals won at last September's Commonwealth Games, with three golden ones going to doubles specialist Jo Goode.

Steve Baddeley, over whose head that can of Coke was notoriously tipped, would rather the controversial incidents had not occurred. But the man who has filled the role as the Association's chief executive for the last two years is happy to acknowledge that the adverse publicity was not all bad. At least it got the game noticed.

Badminton is a hugely popular domestic sport, played by an estimated 5 million people in England, of whom 55,000 are affiliated with the national association.

But, paradoxically, this widespread appeal hampers the game in its efforts to promote itself at elite level. The popular image still tends to be one of a soft pit-a-pat affair played by those no longer hale or hearty enough to hit a ball. As he seeks to raise the nation's game at world level, Baddeley has his work cut out.

Now 37, he was one of the players who brought his country notable success during an era which began with the women's doubles victory achieved by Nora Perry and Jane Webster at the 1980 world championships - England's only world title to date.

Commonwealth champion in 1986, and European champion four years later, he established a position in the world rankings that was both respectable and - in terms of ensuring his availability to commentate on the later stages of competition for the broadcasting television station - reliable.

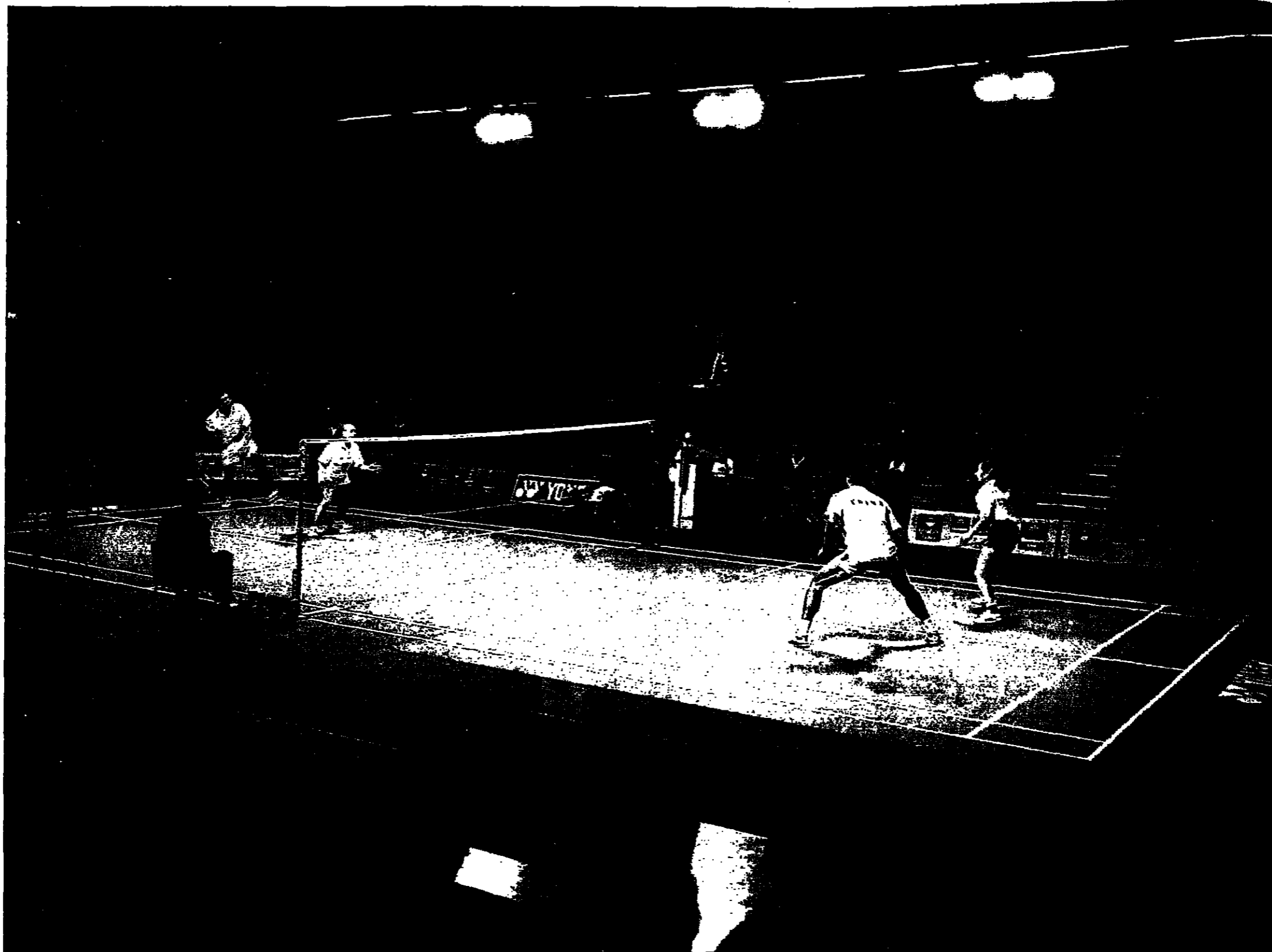
"I was perfect for TV," he said with a grin. "I was guaranteed to be at all the big events, and I was almost always out before the semi-finals." Baddeley's position at or around No 6 in the world corresponds to that occupied by England now. His ambition of edging them further up the order is, clearly, a long-term one.

The upwardly mobile aspirations were set clearly in context at the Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre on Saturday night as a youthful Chinese team concluded their week-long series of internationals with a clean sweep to finish 5-1 winners.

Almost every one of the visiting players who had whistle-stopped their way by bus from Gateshead to Grantham to Portsmouth to St Austell to Weston-super-Mare on the five previous days was under 20. China's Olympic prospects, it was reasonable to conclude, were looking extremely healthy.

The tourists' team leader, Ren Chunhui, an amiable court-side presence, confirmed the prognosis. "Yes," he said. "We prepare for the Olympics step-by-step, and these players will be ready for the 2004 Games." 2004. Not the next Games, in 2000, then? He considered the group of youngsters who sat watching the action and shouting out the occasional encouragement to their colleagues on court, appearing to scan every face. "I don't think so," he said with a smile. "Too young."

Later in the evening, Goode, who played the women's doubles with 21-year-old Gail Emms in the absence of her regular partner, Donna Kellogg, emphasised the demanding nature



The scene at Stevenage Arts and Leisure Centre on Saturday night, when England's badminton team lost to the Chinese who completed a comfortable 5-1 series victory

Neville Elder

ture of England's current ambitions. "We always have a few good players around, but it is going to be a long term project before we can compete on level terms with the top nations." Nodding towards the visiting group, she added: "They've just got so many to choose from." The tour of England, completed annually since 1993, gives China's up-and-coming players the opportunity to increase their international experience before graduating to the

*'We always have a few good players around, but it will be a while before we can compete on level terms with the top nations'*

big events. Their hosts would love to be able to afford such a luxury. But, as with so many domestic sports, National Lottery funding is beginning to establish ambitions at a higher, more stable level.

As author of the eight-year plan which has generated £1.3m of funding from the Lottery this year, Baddeley knows the sport has to reach certain targets to maintain the flow of cash.

By 2005, the aim is to win a medal in every discipline at the world championships. A tall order, especially

when one considers that not one English player reached the last eight at last year's world championships.

But at least the money is going in the right direction.

Baddeley's annual budget when he took up his current position was £100,000. Last year, thanks to the Lottery, it was just under £1m. And another £4.2m of Lottery funds have been allocated to transform the training centre at the Association's home base in Milton Keynes into a state-of-the-art, eight-court facility.

It will be a good start. But in China, where badminton stands just behind football and basketball in terms of national popularity, a power base is already in existence which England will never be likely to match. Six regional centres were established as far back as 1953. Now, each of the 22 Chinese provinces has a centre - each one of which is larger than the proposed project in Milton Keynes.

For all that, the presence of Goode, and other high-achievers such as the reigning European champions in the men's doubles, Simon Archer and Chris Hunt, offer high hopes for the immediate future.

"At school, any boys who played badminton were seen as wets," Goode recalled. "That is the image we have to change." Baddeley has already got wet in service of his sport. Coke doesn't do a lot for suits - but at least the Association paid for his to be cleaned.



At the sharp end: England's Anthony Clark and Gail Emms concentrate on taking the game to the Chinese

Neville Elder



## Godfather of rugby league, man of mystery

The Memoirs and Sporting Life of Tom Mitchell  
By Tom Mitchell  
(Echotime Inc, hardback, £16)

HOW IS it possible to resist a book with a chapter entitled "Kruschev and Rugby League"?

Tom Mitchell, who died earlier this year, not long after completing his autobiography, would be the only man who could bring the two things together, along with musings on sludge, watercress and Worthington Town, without it all reading like an elaborate spoof.

This, as you will have gathered

## BOOK OF THE WEEK

ered by now, is something of a mixed bag, but then Mitchell was an extraordinary man with an extraordinary range of activities and interests. He was best known in rugby league circles as the driving force behind Worthington, the Great Britain manager on the successful and legendary 1958 tour to Australia and, latterly, as the elder statesman - even "The Godfather" - of the game. But he was also a working farmer, mile-runner and

mountain-climber, a qualified chemist and a much-travelled government operative whose journeys abroad, including the one on which he and Nikita got down to business, were surrounded by a certain air of mystery.

There are those who believe that he was, in essence, a spy and they will find nothing here to dissuade them from that opinion.

What is certain is that his contribution to the game he loved was immense and that is duly reflected here, especially in his accounts of the early days of a new club at Worthington and the most detailed

description yet of that momentous 1968 tour.

He is particularly good on the cloak-and-dagger business of signing players from rugby union. He might or might not have been engaged in espionage in Russia and points east, but he certainly was when he ventured into South Wales or the Scottish Borders. Quite how such a distinctive figure, with his luxuriant beard and extravagant hats, expected to avoid being recognised is not clear. In fact, you suspect that was all part of the fun.

This is not so much a life-story in the conventional sense as a trawl through a remarkable

man's memories and mementoes. At times, it seems to be in no particular order or priority, although it has its own internal logic. There might be more here about sludge than the average rugby league supporter feels he needs to know, but it is all part of the overall picture.

Apart from Kruschev, Mitchell meets up with Picasso, King Farouk and Burgess, Philby and McLean - not a Worthington front row, but the notorious spies. He is at his warmest and most vivid, however, recalling the players he signed and celebrating the qualities of men

like Gus Risman, Brian Edgar and the tragically crippled John Burke.

You could find a useful side as well from "The Ones Who Got Away", players with whom Mitchell met and negotiated - all incognito, of course - like Barry John, David Duckham and Andy Irvine.

It comes as a surprise, in fact, that a man often regarded as a patron saint of rugby league kept such a big foot in the other camp. To him, a good rugby player was a good rugby player and, reading between the lines, Kruschev seemed to think the same. Dave Hadfield

## THIS WEEK'S TOP TEN SPORTS BOOKS

- 1 My Autobiography, Harry Redknapp with Derek McGovern (Collins Willow, hardback, £16.99)
  - 2 The Carling Ultimate Football Guide 1999 - edited by Mike Williams (Sky Blue publications, paperback, £14.95)
  - 3 Tennent's Lager Scottish Football Review 1998-99 (Programme Publications, paperback, £6.95)
  - 4 Benson and Hedges Cricket Year - edited David Lemon (Bloomsbury, hardback, £20.00)
  - 5 T D - Terrell Davis with Adam Scheffer (Harper Collins, hardback, £19.95)
  - 6 Rothmans Book of Football Records, Jack Rollin (Headline, hardback, £25.00)
  - 7 Wembley The Greatest Stage - Tom Watt and Kevin Palmer (Simon & Schuster, hardback, £30.00)
  - 8 Shark Among Dolphins, Steve Hubbard (Ballantine Books, paperback, £5.50)
  - 9 The Climb - Anatoli Boukreev and Weston DeWalt (St Martin's, paperback, £5.99)
  - 10 National Hockey League Official Guide and Record Book 1998-99, edited by Dan Diamond (National Hockey League, paperback, £16.95)
- Chart compiled by Sportspages, 94-96 Charing Cross Road, London (0171 240 9604), St Ann's Square, Manchester (0161 332 8530) and at [www.sportspages.co.uk](http://www.sportspages.co.uk)







# Wales recover their love of the game

هكذا في الأصل







## THAT WAS THE WEEKEND THAT WAS

EDITED BY JON CULLEY

### Multiple roles of a minnows' manager

THE EARLY rounds of the FA Cup inevitably reveal the real heroes of football, not the pampered Premiership players on £20,000-a-week but the people driven essentially by their love for the game.

Take Geoff Butler, of the Dr Martens League side Salisbury City, an object lesson to those who think combining the roles of player and manager is too taxing.

Butler, who has been at the club 16 years, is not only the team manager but commercial manager and managing di-

rector. In the build-up to Saturday's match against Hull City it was his responsibility not just to pick the team but to order extra food for the snack bars and the boardroom, not to mention ensuring the white lines had been painted and the kit had been washed.

A former full-back with Norwich and Bournemouth, Butler has tasted the professional life but cannot imagine how he would fill his time if he were in charge at a Premiership club, nor how the likes of George Graham and Alex

Ferguson would manage if placed in his position.

"They couldn't just order a secretary to bring them in a cup of tea," he said. "They'd have to make it themselves, provided they had remembered to stop at the supermarket on the way to the ground to pick up some tea bags."

But when the Cup pairs you against League opposition and 2,500 people pour into your ground, it all becomes worthwhile. Pity Hull had to spoil his day by winning 2-0.

### The Diamonds prove a cut above

CONGRATULATIONS TO Rushden & Diamonds, Enfield and Kidderminster Harriers – and not merely for surviving Saturday's FA Cup dramas to take their places in the second round draw.

They were the only three of those who performed above their station in Saturday's matches with Internet sites up-to-date enough to provide supporters with the full story of how it happened, ready to read within hours of the match finishing.

In keeping with their image as a progressive club bound one day to achieve Nationwide League status, the Diamonds of the Conference scored full marks, with a detailed match report on the

Northamptonshire outfit's official web site.

So as not to appear too biased, the author admits that Rushden's goal was "somewhat fluky", a looping cross by Paul Underwood that hit the post and then bounced into the net off a hapless Shrewsbury goalkeeper. But, as they say, they all count.

Displaced Enfield supporters seeking news of their side's comeback against York should point their browsers at the Unofficial Enfield Football Club Homepage, which again provides a full match report and the news that a shortage of match programmes led to copies of the fanzine, *The Green Traffic Light Society* (don't ask!), selling out.

#### KEY NUMBERS

4 The number of Premiership red cards collected by Blackburn this season after Tim Sherwood's dismissal at Old Trafford.

26 The number of League matches since Middlesbrough last lost at home.

347 The goalless Premiership minutes Newcastle fans endured between Stephen Glass's goal against Derby on 17 October and Paul Dalglish's fourth-minute opener on Saturday.

#### I TOLD YOU SO

"I don't think there's any doubt Liverpool will be dealt up now they have one manager in total charge." David O'Leary, Leeds manager. Perhaps he should have delivered the Liverpool team talk...

### PREMIERSHIP TEAM OF THE WEEK

NEIL LENNON Leicester City	STEPHEN CARR Southampton
DWIGHT YORKE Manchester United	JAP STAAM Manchester United
DION DUBLIN Aston Villa	FRANK LEBORUF Chelsea
GIANNI ZOLA Chelsea	GARETH Southgate Aston Villa
GUSTAVO POYET Chelsea	ANDY KIRCHCLIFFE Sheffield Wednesday

Manager of the weekend: David O'Leary (Leeds United), chose an attacking game plan for his young side and was rewarded with a fine victory.  
Performance of the weekend: Chelsea – hitting their best form of the season to demolish regular league club Middlesbrough.

### Missing... making it... and mistaken



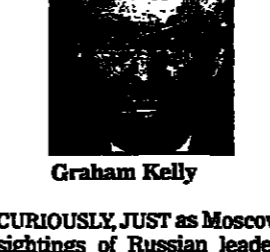
MARCO PASCOLO  
NOTTINGHAM FOREST

SIGNED FOR £750,000 from Cagliari last year, the 32-year-old former Swiss No 1 took Mark Crossley's place at the start of last season but was injured after three matches and returned to find Dave Beasant established as first-choice goalkeeper. Joined FC Zurich on loan this season but is now back in Nottingham, his hopes of a permanent move having collapsed over personal terms.



LUCA PERCASSI  
CHELSEA

PIERLUIGI CASIRAGHI may have been Chelsea's headline signing last summer but he was not the only one. The manager, Gianluca Vialli, also acquired 17-year-old Luca Percassi, a strongly built defender from Atalanta who confirmed his promise on his senior debut when he came on as substitute in Wednesday's Worthington Cup demolition of Arsenal.



BORIS YELTSIN

CURIOUSLY, JUST as Moscow sightings of Russian leader Boris Yeltsin have become rare, at Lancaster Gate the slim-line Graham Kelly seems to have been replaced with a somewhat more portly man of spreading girth and silver hair. Is this merely a coincidence?

### RUMOURS

### Bosnich beyond United's coffers

MANCHESTER UNITED'S interest in signing Mark Bosnich to replace Peter Schmeichel may be tempered by the Villa goalkeeper's financial demands, according to the *People*, which reckons the Australian is asking for £82,000-a-week, taking his signing on fee into account. A basic wage of £35,000-a-week would shatter the Old Trafford pay structure and the United manager, Alex Ferguson, may instead turn to Ipswich's England under-21 prospect, Richard Wright, or the French World Cup keeper, Fabien Barthès.

The *Express* says that Villa, resigned to losing Bosnich when his contract expires in the summer, have their eye on Liverpool's David James. John Gregory is reportedly willing to pay £3m for James, believing he can get the best out of the 28-year-old, likely to be surplus to requirements in Gerard Houllier's new Anfield regime. The *People* says Houllier is

looking at Stuttgart's veteran Austrian, 34-year-old Franz Wohlfahrt, as a stop-gap. The *Sunday Mirror* claims Houllier's Anfield revolution could claim Paul Ince and Robbie Fowler. The Frenchman allegedly regards Ince as disruptive and feels the combination of Fowler and Michael Owen does not work. According to the *People*, Tottenham are pursuing the 23-year-old Celia Vigo defender Miguel Salgado, for whom the Spanish club would want £3m.

Dave Bassett has emerged as the target for managerless Wolverhampton Wanderers. The *News of the World* reports. The Forest boss is said to be unsettled at the City Ground.

The *News of the World* says Real Madrid are set to bid £3m for Arsenal's Ray Parlour, while the *People* claims that Liverpool's Steve McManis, supposedly bound for Real, has now set his heart on joining Juventus instead.

### THE WEEK AHEAD

Today: Nottingham Forest may be facing a short life in the Premiership but if they can beat Derby at the City Ground the season will have at least one redeeming feature.  
Tomorrow: England Under-21s are at Portman Road, Ipswich, for a friendly with the Czech Republic youngsters. Meanwhile, Northamptonshire will play with Moldova counts towards European Under-21 Championship standings. Wednesday: England's seniors meet the Czech Republic at a Wembley friendly. There is European Championship action for Northern Ireland (vs Slovakia) and the Republic of Ireland (vs Yugoslavia) and under-21 duty for the Republic and Scotland, at home to Belgium.  
Friday: An historic moment at Middlesbrough, whose otherwise not stunningly impressive Third Division match against Barnsley features the debut of the new Fluoro Luminous yellow ball.  
Saturday: No shelter from the spotlight for Gerard Houllier, whose Liverpool side face the unbeaten Premiership leaders Aston Villa at Anfield. Arsenal will want maximum points at Sheffield Wednesday and Arsenal at Wimbledon. Chelsea test their upward mobility against the spooked Leicester at Filbert Street. First Division leaders Sunderland are at home to Barnsley.

### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

	Home	Away	5-game form	
	Pt	Pts	GD	W D L F A
1 Aston Villa	12	28	+12	5 1 0 11 4
2 Man Utd	12	25	+15	5 2 0 18 6
3 Arsenal	13	24	+9	4 3 0 10 2
4 Chelsea	11	20	+7	4 2 0 10 3
5 Leeds	13	20	+6	3 2 1 6 2
6 West Ham	13	20	+1	3 3 1 10 8
7 Middlesbrough	13	19	+5	2 4 0 10 13
8 Derby	12	17	+2	2 3 1 6 4
9 Leicester	13	17	0	3 2 1 7 4
10 Wimbledon	13	17	-5	2 3 1 10 8
11 Charlton	13	16	+3	2 3 1 12 6
12 Liverpool	13	16	+3	2 3 2 13 10
13 Newcastle	13	16	-1	3 2 2 10 9
14 Tottenham	13	16	-5	2 2 2 9 12
15 Coventry	13	14	-6	3 1 3 8 9
16 Sheff Wed	13	12	-3	2 2 2 4 4
17 Everton	13	12	-7	0 4 2 7 15
18 Blackburn	13	9	-6	2 1 3 9 8
19 Nottm Forest	12	9	-10	1 2 3 2 5
20 Southampton	13	7	-20	1 2 4 9 16

### NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

	Home	Away	5-game form	
	Pt	Pts	GS	W D L F A
1 Sunderland	18	40	42	6 2 0 22 3
2 Ipswich	18	35	26	6 1 2 14 4
3 Watford	19	32	31	4 4 1 11 8
4 Birmingham	19	32	25	4 4 2 13 8
5 Bradford City	18	31	34	6 2 1 24 8
6 Sheffield Utd	19	30	31	6 3 1 19 13
7 Wolves	19	29	27	5 3 1 13 7
8 Norwich	17	29	27	4 4 0 16 8
9 Huddersfield	19	26	26	6 3 0 17 8
10 West Brom	18	27	36	6 0 4 23 16
11 Crystal Palace	16	26	28	7 1 1 23 10
12 Grimsby	18	26	23	5 4 1 17 8
13 Bolton	17	25	33	2 5 2 12 11
14 Stockport	18	23	23	2 4 3 11 11
15 Tranmere	18	21	23	2 4 3 11 11
16 Port Vale	19	21	21	4 0 6 9 18
17 Bury	19	21	14	5 2 2 10 6
18 Swindon	19	20	27	4 3 2 20 15
19 Barnsley	19	20	22	3 4 3 14 13
20 Portsmouth	19	18	27	3 2 4 14 12
21 QPR	18	18	17	3 3 2 8 5
22 Oxford	19	17	20	3 3 3 15 11
23 Bristol City	19	15	27	2 3 4 16 23
24 Crewe	18	11	19	2 2 5 11 19

### FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

Conventry (1)	3	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Wolves (1)	3	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Wolves (1)	3	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

### FOOTBALL RESULTS

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0

Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0
Sheff Wed (0)	0	Sheff Wed (0)	0





## SPORT

SHUTTLECOCK DIPLOMACY P18 • HOWLEY RESTORES WELSH PRIDE P22

## The misery piles up on Merseyside

THE DEPRESSION hanging over football on Merseyside continues to be shared. After Liverpool's defeat at the hands of Leeds on Saturday, Everton's troubles deepened with a result that leaves them fourth from bottom of the Premiership with only two points from their last five matches.

Goals by Stephen Froggatt, Darren Huckerby and Noel Whelan elevated Everton to 15th place and with the £2.5m Norwegian striker Rune Lange reportedly on his way there is reason for optimism at Highfield Road, or at least to believe Gordon Strachan has arrested the recent decline.

After the loss of Dion Dublin to Aston Villa, it seemed things might rapidly turn sour for a side that began the season with European ambitions but two wins in two matches since their top scorer's departure suggests they can manage quite nicely without him.

Gérard Houllier may consider he has a job on his hands at Anfield but at least, unlike Everton's Walter Smith, he has not yet blown his cash. The former Rangers manager has spent more than £21m since his arrival at Goodison Park in the summer, yet so far Everton look no less likely to struggle than last season, when only a point against Coventry on the final day clinched their survival.

Enjoying no shortage of possession, Smith felt they might have squeezed something from yesterday's match. But if Coventry had a weapon unavailable to Everton it was the electrifying pace possessed in large measure not only by the front-line partnership of Huckerby and Whelan but also by Stephen Froggatt on the left flank.

Football has not been altogether kind to the 26-year-old winger unveiled by Graham Taylor at Aston Villa seven years ago. After moving

BY JON CULLEY

Coventry City	3
Everton	0

to Wolves in 1994 he appeared to be fixed, suffering serious illness and then one injury problem after another. But his switch to Highfield Road six weeks ago offers a chance to relaunch his career.

Yesterday's goal, his first for his new club, will be a candidate for goal of the month. Chasing a clever pass out of defence by Roger Nilsson, Froggatt carried the ball a good 40 yards, leaving a pack of Everton pursuers well behind. Approaching the 18-yard line, he had the option to pass inside to Huckerby but chose

pull-back invited his team-mate to score from close range but Myhre brought off a stop of equal merit to save from Gary McAllister close to half-time.

The killer blow for Everton came three minutes into the second period when pace again was the yellow-shirted visitors' enemy. Froggatt turned provider this time, his precise, driven pass finding Huckerby darting into the Everton penalty area. The Coventry striker's touch and finish were of the highest order. Everton, with an injured Bakayoko giving way to Danny Cadamarteri, tried manfully to find a way back into the contest but, with McAllister more effective in midfield than his Scotland colleague John Collins, Coventry always looked the more likely source of more goals.

Myhre produced another excellent save to keep out a Froggatt volley and Whelan missed a golden chance 10 minutes from the end, hitting one effort straight into Myhre's body and scooping the rebound over the crossbar.

But Whelan enjoyed the last laugh, sliding the ball home in stoppage time after David Unsworth - one of three Everton players cautioned - had intercepted Huckerby's effort on the line after another lightning break from defence.

"It was not our worst performance but the second goal allowed Coventry to sit back and attack on the break," Smith said.

**Goals:** Froggatt (16) 1-0; Huckerby (48) 2-0; Whelan (90) 3-0.  
**Coventry City (4-4-2):** Hedman; Nilsson, Williams, Shaw, Edwards; Telfer, Clement, McAllister; Froggatt, Huckerby, Whelan. Substitutes used: Isaac Brown, Batters, Roberts, Shilton, Carlisle (69), Swales (3-3-2); Myhre, Short, Matrazzi, Unsworth, Odum (Nilsson, 76), Grant, Hutchinson, Collins, Bakayoko (Cadamarteri, 50), Ferguson. Substitutes not used: Watson, Dunne, S. Hansen (6).  
**Referee:** G. Poll (Rings).  
**Bookings:** Coventry: Huckerby; Everton: Unsworth, Bakayoko, Matrazzi.  
**Man of the match:** Froggatt.  
**Attendance:** 19,290.

## INSIDE

The 38-year-old David Falcate was Leigh's hero after denying Keegan's Fulham Page 24

instead to unleash a left-foot shot that ripped into the far corner of the Everton net.

In a half of open football, Everton should have replied with a goal of their own but their failure to do so perhaps reflected the same frailty of confidence as is afflicting Liverpool. Chances fell to Tony Grant, Duncan Ferguson, who sent a good heading chance wide from Don Hutchison's corner, and to the frustrating Ibrahim Bakayoko, at £4.5m Smith's costliest signing, whose tendency to try to beat one defender too many is a habit he must curb.

A fine save from Magnus Hedman denied Grant what looked sure to be an equaliser after Alex Cleland's



Duncan Ferguson, in a rare moment of Everton ascendancy, rises above Coventry's Paul Williams at Highfield Road. **Allypore**

## Injured Shearer out of England squad

ALAN SHEARER has been forced out of England's squad for Wednesday night's friendly match against the Czech Republic at Wembley because of a hamstring injury.

The England captain suffered the damage during the first half of Newcastle United's 1-1 draw with Sheffield Wednesday at St James' Park on Saturday and he took no part after the interval.

Newcastle's manager, Rudi Garcia, cast doubt over Shearer's availability for England immediately after the match, saying: "If he couldn't play

BY MARK BURTON

here, he won't be able to play for England."

United have denied that there is any rift between Shearer and Garcia after reports that the two disagreed over the injury.

Shearer was the only player not expected to meet up with the rest of Glenn Hoddle's squad, but there are doubts over Paul Scholes, who suffered a similar injury after scoring twice during Manchester United's 3-2 victory over Blackburn Rovers, and

Leicester's Emile Heskey. He missed his side's 3-2 defeat at West Ham United after picking up an ankle problem during the Worthington Cup victory over Leeds United in midweek.

The Football Association's spokesman, Steve Double, said the injured players would be examined by England's medical staff before any withdrawals are announced.

"We are expecting everybody down with the exception of Alan Shearer, who's having a scan on his injured hamstring in Newcastle in the morning and will be in touch

with Glenn after that," Double said.

Hoddle is already without the injured Liverpool striker, Michael Owen, for the friendly against the Czech Republic, and Shearer's absence will force him into a re-think his attack. Dion Dublin, who continued his spectacular start at Aston Villa, with a hat-trick at Southampton on Saturday, is one alternative as is Owen's club-mate, Robbie Fowler, who scored a penalty in Liverpool's 3-1 home defeat by Leeds, is another. Ian Wright, still scoring after his move from Arsenal to

West Ham, could also come into the reckoning.

Reports put Scholes's injury down to the Old Trafford pitch, which has cut up over the last two or three games and is being relaid ahead of United's next home match with Leeds in a fortnight's time.

Gareth Southgate is expected to join up with Hoddle's squad, but his arrival could be delayed because he wishes to attend the birth of his first child. The Aston Villa defender expects to arrive at Bisham Abbey this afternoon after his wife, Alison, has given birth.

Villa have a club record four players in the squad, with Southgate joined by Paul Merson, Dion Dublin and Lee Hendrie.

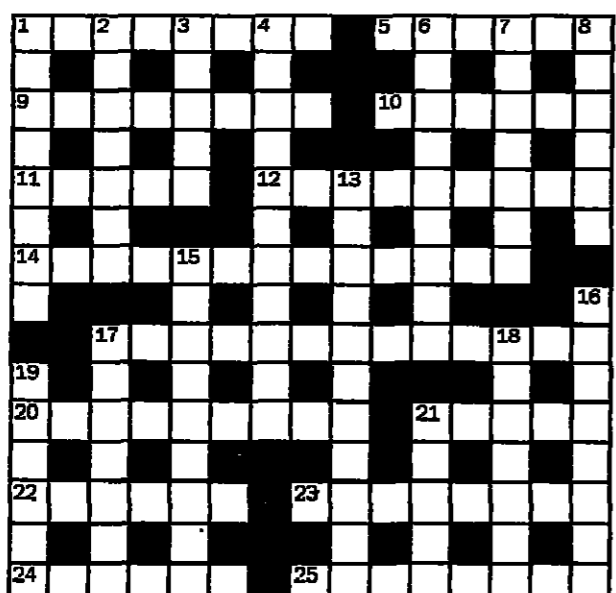
The FA chairman, Keith Wiseman, says there is "nothing wrong or unusual" about the FA providing financial help to the Football Association of Wales. Wiseman has pledged a £3.2m grant to the hard-up FAW, spread over eight years, is adamant that such assistance is "commonplace."

Wiseman admits his actions are "still being discussed inside the FA" but hopes the matter will be "resolved quickly".

## THE MONDAY CROSSWORD

No. 3769, Monday 16 November

By Portia



## ACROSS

- 1 Appreciate position taken by a cricketer (8)
- 5 Girl's bias about being single at first (6)
- 9 Rocket fuel's function (8)
- 10 Make a mess of giving bribe to the Continental (6)
- 11 New look given to northern Scottish town (5)
- 12 Time's wasted - press in at once (9)
- 14 Having sound Conservative principles (5-8)
- 17 Sculpted little horse so it's naturally decorative (13)
- 20 Emerge carrying drink left for Greek guy (9)
- 21 Sea-monster in the Aegean (5)
- 22 Obtain pass (4, 2)
- 23 Not in agreement about Navy bonus (8)
- 24 Initially reduced money spent on essential seed

## DOWN

- 2 Skin product's open and three-quarters full (8)
- 3 Go after popular supporter on foot (8)
- 4 Against being involved in kind of relief work? (7)
- 6 Key point admitted by a German bloke (5)
- 8 Start Hugo off with it directly (8, 3)
- 9 Special unit loses force-recruits needed (9)
- 11 Original scientific theory presented in important report (3, 4)
- 13 We hear person conducting vocal music (8)
- 15 Serve with one chap on executive (1, 1)
- 16 Revolutionary platform? (9)
- 17 European banker investing rest in plant (8)
- 18 Victory for one about to outwit Henry (7)
- 19 Not tipped to last for ever (7)
- 21 Fellow since joining intelligence agency's board (6)
- 22 City you can see from Golgotha I fancy (5)

UK business travellers flying within Europe just announced their choice for Best Airline\*. Many thanks.

\*in Business Traveller Magazine

swissair

## Call for Hick signals concern

ENGLAND YESTERDAY underlined their concern for Michael Atherton's long-standing back problem by rushing out Graeme Hick to provide cover before Friday's first Test in Brisbane.

Atherton is still regarded as England's most influential player Down Under despite stepping down as captain last winter and speculation about the extent of his injury began when he did not take the field during the Queensland innings in the current warm-up game.

Both the England coach, David Lloyd, and the physio, Wayne Morton, attempted to make light of the complaint, but admitted it was "a worry" with the first Test imminent. Hick was contacted promptly and will join the rest of the squad in Brisbane on Wednesday.

The surprise phone call from the chairman of selectors, David Graveney, represents the latest in a long line of second chances for the prolific but enigmatic Worcestershire batsman. He was placed on standby for the Ashes tour after narrowly miss-

## CRICKET

ing out to John Crawley in the selection for the 17-man party.

Hick, who scored a century against Sri Lanka on his last Test appearance in August, said: "Although as stand-by I knew something like this could happen, the call came as a surprise, but a nice one all the same."

"I know I'm going out as cover just in case any other injury doubts crop up and at the moment I don't know how long I'll be with the squad. But however long I'm there, it will be nice practising outdoors in the cold of an English winter."

But the speed of the call to Worcester indicates the need of the selectors to provide an insurance policy for their most respected and feared batsman - even if Graveney attempted to shrug off the importance.

"Michael's back condition is well-documented and there is no suggestion at this stage that he will be forced out of the tour through injury," he said. Atherton faces early exit, page 19

Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford, Herts. Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01900 840370.

Monday 16 November 1998 Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office

## INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS



BREITLING 1884



CROSSWIND

Fine Jewellery Ground Floor

Harrods  
KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Harrods Limited, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7NL. Telephone 0171-276 1111

15:50 من الاربعاء

THE INDEPENDENT  
Monday 16 November 1998

THE INDEPENDENT

16 November 1998

# MONDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

He's rich. He has goals in life. And for the price of a video, he'll put you to sleep. But despite his dazzling talents, Paul McKenna couldn't bake a Victoria sponge to save his life



THE  
DEBORAH ROSS  
INTERVIEW

**P**aul McKenna, the world's most popular hypnotist, and multi-millionaire, lives in one of those fabulously expensive little mews jobs just off High Street Kensington. Certainly, it's the sort of place I'd choose to live, if I had his lucrative talent, and could make people think they're Elvis Presley, instead of having no talent whatsoever, beyond being able to make people bored which, yes, has rightly earned me a rubbish house nowhere near Kensington and an ever-dwindling number of party invites. Still, pecker up. I have great hopes for my self-help, audio tape - *Boredom Power!* - which, I've been assured, might sell very nicely if it sells at all.

Paul himself answers the door. He is wearing an Armani shirt and designer specs. He is quite slight. His hair is quite thin. He has rather weak, woody features. He looks very much like the DJ from Enfield he once was. He looks like he might dance as badly as your dad at parties. He is 34. His mother, Joan, is a home economics teacher who, yes, makes good Victoria sponges. He can not make Victoria sponges, he says. Or any other kind of cake? "Um. No. Actually. Jam tarts? No. Scones? No." Are you acquainted with the rubbing-in technique? "NO!" Would it be fair to say, Paul, that you're not much interested in home baking? "IT WOULD!" Is that confession on or off the record, Paul? He says he doesn't mind if it's on. I ask if he's finding this interview quite boring so far. He yawns. So you are, then? "Oh, no, no, no," he quickly protests. "It's just that I only got back from New York an hour ago. I'm jet-lagged. Knackered." Rock cakes? "NO!"

He lives mainly in New York now, he explains. He's got an apartment there, and a new girlfriend, a television presenter who "is very nice". America is a good place to be based, he says, because of all the Rikiki's and Montels and Jerry Springers. "Do those shows," he says with some glee, "and you can promote your products, shift tons of tapes." He thinks *Kidz* is rubbish. "It's. Tell me, has anyone here ever had a parking ticket?" He isn't keen on Los Angeles, either. "I lived there once for four months, and didn't make a friend. Everyone is so into the business. It's like, you go out for dinner, and someone asks for the noise to be turned down, because it's annoying Tom Selleck's brother." I say that when I go out for dinner, people ask for me to be turned down, because I'm just so annoyingly dull. He says: "Don't you think you're being a little hard on yourself?" I say, peppermint creams? Everyone can make peppermint creams, can't they? He says: "NO! NO! NO!" But, he adds, he can make a cup of tea. Cup of tea? "Please."

So we trot down the mustard-yellow, colour-washed hall, to the kitchen. And wow! Hand-made cabinets. Dazzlingly shiny, marbled surfaces. Lots of equally dazzling, stainless steel, gadgety things. What's the point of all this, I ask, if you can't even do peppermint creams? He says: "My former fiancée designed it. She did cook." We take our tea up to the living room. The living room is very plush, with gold wallpaper, big, fat, swaggy curtains and big, fat sofas which don't look as if anyone has ever sat on them. I say the room seems more rich, old grandmother than thrusting, superstar performer, up there with Cilla when it comes to TV ratings. He says the decor is, actually, the previous owners'. "I thought he was a really tasteful guy, so I kept it." So, in short, Paul's a bloke who doesn't mind living with other people's taste.

Certainly, his own personality doesn't seem to be stamped anywhere. Perhaps he just doesn't have much of a personality to stamp. He has done a lot of work on himself over the years, and is evangelical about the benefits of self-hypnosis which, he says, has taken him from a puny under-achiever who, at school, was told he'd never amount to anything, to the focused stage and telly star he is today. He goes on to talk a lot about "targets" and "goals". He says that



## Paul McKenna, hypnoti...zzzzzz

there was this study once, of a group of Yale students, 3 per cent of whom were found to have specific goals while the rest didn't. "And, when they were followed up years later, the 3 per cent had made more money than the other 97 per cent put together!" He adds that the first step towards achieving a goal is to visualise what it would feel like to achieve it. He says that when he started out in the business he visualised "a nice house, with me standing outside, smiling". Trouble is, I don't think he ever visualised how he would live in that house. Perhaps if you have too many targets and goals, there simply isn't room for much of a self. Anyway, what goal does he visualise now? "To get married, have children, be more successful." Aren't you successful enough? "By successful, I don't mean more of what I have. I mean more enriching experiences, more enriching travels, meet more interesting people, contribute more to the world." He can seem quite fetchingly earnest at times.

Still, I wonder about this "goals" business. Don't you have to be a control freak to either pull it off, or think you can? Is Paul a control freak? Possibly. Indeed, the one personal touch I do detect in his house is, bizarrely, the Post-It note stuck to the underside of the loo seat that says: "Down! Do you consider yourself a control freak, Paul? I do like to be in control, yes. Are you?" Certainly, I reply. I'm so in control that if I say, "Right, I'm not drinking tonight", I'll have just

six bottles of wine then add, "What I meant was, I'm not drinking more than six bottles tonight". Paul laughs playfully. Then says: "I can be spontaneous too, you know. The other day some friends rang to see if I'd go skiing with them and I said yes, even though I've never been skiing before."

Perhaps it's this control thing that makes him so brilliant at what he does. Although I've never much gone in for his TV shows - *The Hypnotic World of Paul McKenna*, *The Paranormal World of Paul McKenna* - I did see him live on stage once, and he was terrifically good, making people think they were electrical appliances or Elvis and all that. And, of course, up on stage he is totally in control. Of everybody. Anyway, he'll be returning to the London stage in February, after a break of three years and the court case in which one of his stage volunteers (Christopher Gates) attempted to sue Paul for turning him into a schizophrenic. Gates lost the case. But can hypnotism ever be dangerous? "That's like asking if communication in itself can be dangerous. Or a hammer. It depends whose using it, and with what intent. But, still, I would say, no, it isn't. Over 500,000 people have been stage hypnotised in this country, and there have only ever been 25 complaints." And? "None of them were ever upheld. Apart, that is, from the woman who fell off the stage and broke her leg."

Paul was born and raised in Enfield, north London. His father, John, was a builder, while

his mother was, interestingly, a home-economics teacher. Scotch pancakes? "NO! Look, I can just about open a can of beans, OK?" Paul grew up not liking himself very much. "I didn't feel attractive. I didn't think nice things about myself. I didn't have rewarding goals." He worried about his looks. "You know, big nose." He went to a Jesuit school which he hated. "We were beaten with sticks and belts. I was told I'd never amount to anything." He retreated into music, then left school at 16 to become a DJ, ending up hosting a breakfast show for a commercial station in Bedfordshire. One morning, he had a professional hypnotist on the show. The hypnotist put Paul into a trance. "And it was just the most amazing feeling." This ignited his interest.

He read all he could on the subject, then started practising on family, friends and the boy next door, who came round on the eve of his biology O level, to say he was never going to pass, could Paul help? Paul put him in a trance, telling him he would remember everything he had ever been told in his biology lessons. The boy went on to fail all his O levels bar biology. "He got an A!" In 1987 he put a small show on in a pub in Cambridge. The next year, he filled the Duke of York's Theatre in London. Today, he can sell out the Albert Hall.

He no longer, he says, feels inadequate on any level. The combination of success, self-hypnosis and defining goals means: "I feel a lot."

Continued on page 8

### CHRISTMAS IN LAPLAND

Fly by 757 to Ivalo for the day • meet Father Christmas • luncheon • snowmobile and reindeer sleigh rides • depart from Gatwick, Manchester or Stansted on 12,19,20,21,22 or 25 December • 757 return from £299

Concorde supersonic to Ivalo on 13 Dec. • all activities plus Husky dogs sleigh ride • 757 to Heathrow £1,099

### New York or Barbados

Eurostar to Paris on 4 Dec • two nights • Concorde to New York • three nights • city tours • Xmas luncheon cruise • helicopter • theatre • Concorde to Heathrow £2,999

Eurostar to Paris on 6 Jan. • one night • Concorde to New York • two nights • BA 757 to Heathrow £1,099

Concorde supersonic to Barbados on 23 December • fifteen nights at Hilton • return to Gatwick £2,999, or £4,999 for Concorde both ways for just ten nights

### Oriana & Orient-Express

Four night Oriana cruise from Southampton to Gran Canaria on 18 December • return to Gatwick £499

Eight night Oriana cruise on 22 December from Gran Canaria to Tenerife via Dakar, St Vincent and Lanzarote • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,999

Concorde to Tenerife on 30 December • five night Oriana cruise to Southampton via Madeira (for New Year) and Vigo • Orient-Express to Victoria £1,999

### QE2 & Orient-Express

Concorde supersonic to Tenerife on 30 November • five night QE2 cruise to Southampton via Las Palmas and Madeira • Orient-Express to Victoria £1,299

For our full colour brochure, please telephone:

0181-992 4477

or write to  
SUPERLATIVE TRAVEL  
43, Woodhurst Road, London, W3 6SS

INSIDE

Letters 2  
Leaders and comment 3-5  
Obituaries 6-7  
Private Lives 8

Features 9  
Arts 10  
On Air 11  
Network 12-16

Listings 19-20  
Radio 21  
Satellite TV 21  
Today's TV 22

NETWORK  
INCLUDING APPOINTMENTS

farrods













# Student jobs take up two days a week

STUDENTS ARE spending the equivalent of two days a week working in part-time jobs to make ends meet, according to a survey by academics. As many as 30 universities now run recruitment agencies on their campuses.

Some students are even taking on full-time jobs on top of full-time university courses, according to research to be unveiled at a conference next month.

Academics fear that standards may fall because undergraduates spend too much time away from their books. They say some degree courses may have to be extended to cope with sharp increases in the numbers of students working their way through college.

A survey by researchers at the University of Central England found that more than 40 per cent of full-time undergraduates were holding down a part-time job, up from less than one-third three years ago. They believe that up to 70 per cent of students nationally may now be supplementing their income to help with the new

BY BEN RUSSELL  
Education Correspondent

£1,000-a-year university tuition fees.

Lindsey Bowes, one of the researchers, said: "People are looking at 60 to 70 per cent of their full-time students working their way through university. There is evidence which suggests that this does have an impact on the student experience."

Student leaders warned that undergraduates faced a "stark choice between working to pay the rent and going to the library".

The survey, for the National Union of Students, estimates that as many as 80,000 students had regular part-time jobs. Andrew Pakes, NUS national president, said: "A lot of student jobs are not about transferable skills, they are stacking shelves or serving in bars and night-clubs and they are worked like donkeys."

"Outside London the Government reckons you can live on £3,500. You only have to look at rents to see the students have to work. The danger is that we are moving towards an

American-style system where students work through university, but that will damage the ethos of higher education and could be damaging to degrees."

Tom Wilson, head of higher education at the lecturers' union NAITFHE, which is organising next month's conference, said that there had been a sharp increase in the number of students forced to work to support their studies.

He said: "There is already evidence that it does have an impact on drop-out rates. It may be leading people to extend the length of their course and it could mean that students pass their degrees, but with a 2.2 rather than a 2.1."

At De Montfort University in Leicester, a commercial agency Workbank has placed more than 100 students in part-time jobs since the beginning of term. Mike Petters, a former president of the university's students' union who now works for the agency, said: "With so many students now facing annual tuition fees [jobs] can bring in some much-needed extra cash without eating into study time."

## 'How yo-yos help me manage on a shoestring'

CAROLINE SHEPPARD, a marketing and law student, said a six-week spell marketing yo-yos was essential to help pay for her final year at university.

Miss Sheppard, a final-year student at De Montfort University, Leicester, has been working 12 to 20 hours a week to earn £600 to supplement her £900 grant and £1,200 student loan.

She got the job through a new employment agency on campus after returning with a large overdraft after a year travelling.

"My grant does not even cover my rent. With my student loans as well, I'm still left with a minus. Because I'm in my final year my social life is not huge, but the books alone cost £170. I'm working as well as studying full-time and [it] really is full-time. In a perfect world I would rather have the time to study, but the job does look good on my CV. It's quite a common thing for people to work but the course work is heavy as well."

"Unless your parents will support you at university you will have to work."



Caroline Sheppard



The Poseidon Fountain at Witley Court near Worcester, in the grounds of which up to 40 sculptures will be displayed

Andrew Fox

## Art park to be set among ruins

A NEW sculpture park with £500,000-worth of modern British works is to be developed in historic parkland surrounding a beautiful ruined Victorian mansion.

The Jerwood Foundation, known for its prestigious annual prize for contemporary art, is joining forces with English Heritage for the venture at Witley Court near Worcester. It will be

BY LOUISE JURY

the third full-size sculpture park in Britain, after Yorkshire and Goodwood in West Sussex.

The first work which will be displayed is a bronze sculpture nearly seven feet high by the late Dame Elizabeth Frink called *Walking Man*, purchased for just over £40,000. The aim is to buy up to 40 works

over the next three years for the extensive grounds of Witley Court which are being restored. One-third of the sculptures will be by established artists, one-third by artists living and working in the West Midlands and the remainder by young sculptors.

"I think it will sit well with our painting prize. It is a proper way of making a statement for

sculpture, creating a facility for people to see sculpture in a wonderful setting," said Alan Grieve, chairman and director of the Jerwood Foundation.

Witley Court was owned by a number of wealthy families from the early 17th century. The existing buildings, which are mainly Victorian, were destroyed by fire in 1937.

The sculpture park is part of

£7m capital expenditure planned by the foundation, set up to commemorate John Jerwood, a pearl dealer. It has not previously given capital grants. Other projects include an award of £900,000 to the Natural History Museum to restore a major gallery to display drawings, paintings and prints, and £1.4m to Trinity Hall, Cambridge, for a new Jerwood Library.

## Don't let a few records spoil your Christmas.

So here it is... whether you're self employed, a director, a business partner or just have more complicated tax affairs than most, now's the time for you to work out the tax due, or send all your records to your tax adviser.

We must receive your tax return plus any balance of tax due by 31 January 1999, unless we've agreed it will be paid under PAYE.

Complete everything now and all you'll have to worry about at Christmas will be where to hang your stocking.

For help and advice please contact your tax office during business hours or call the Self Assessment helpline on

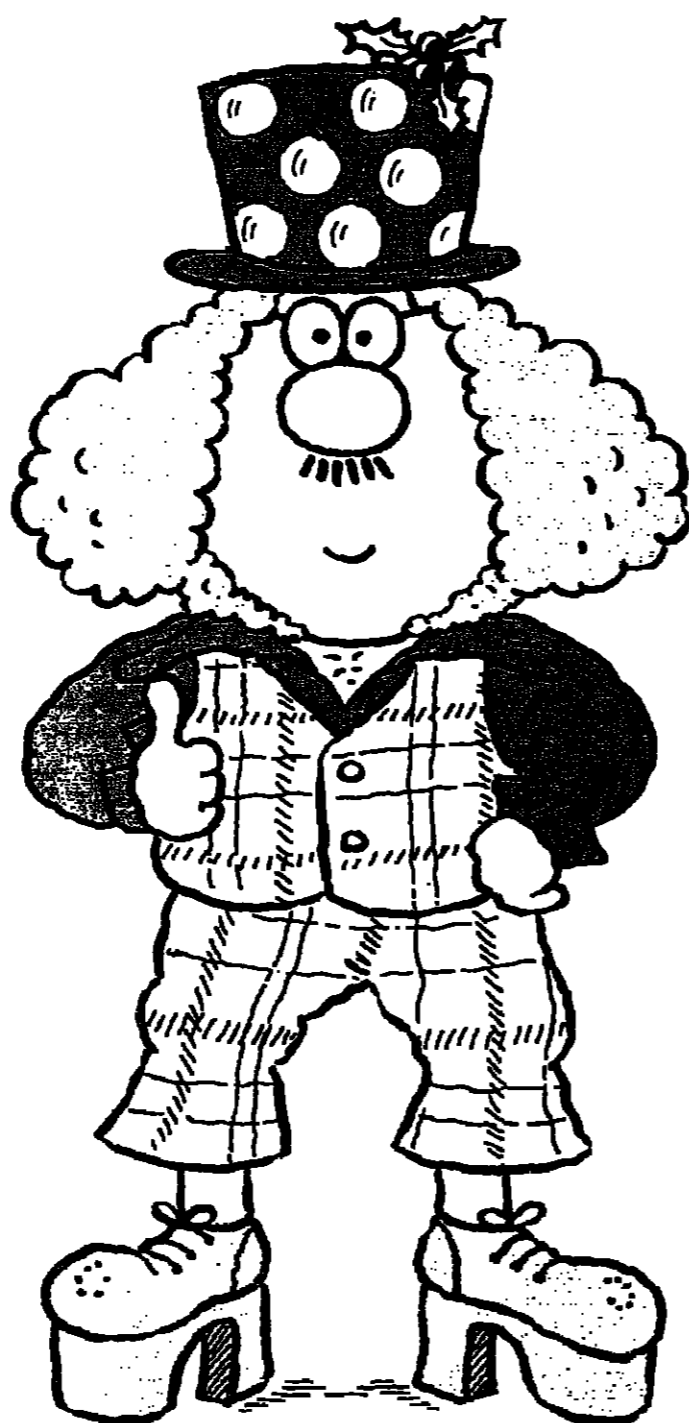
0645 000 444.\*



HM Revenue

Self Assessment - a clearer tax system

\*All calls charged at local rates. Open evenings and weekends (Ref. 54-212)



## Drinks wars start as store cuts prices

SUPERMARKET CHAIN Sainsbury's is slashing the price of beer and wines to win pre-Christmas business from cross-Channel "booze cruises".

The company hopes that by cutting prices on lager and other goods it will persuade shoppers that hopping over to France to stock up on festive supplies is not worth the trouble. The move, which includes cuts of £2 off a pack of 30 25cl Bierre de Moulins lagers, is likely to trigger a price war among other supermarkets before Christmas.

At £5.99, the 30-pack will still be more expensive than in France, but the supermarket says it will make cross-Channel shoppers think twice.

A spokesman said: "We are trying to show that people do not have to go to France to stock up for Christmas. Once they have paid for petrol, the ferry and everything else, they may as well stay here."

The Sainsbury's campaign is already being mirrored in pro-

BY JIM ARMITAGE

motions at Morrisons and Asda supermarkets on brands like Labatt's Ice, Tennent's Extra and Heineken Export.

Asda was today reported as being set to offer vintage Dom Perignon champagne at £49.99 a bottle instead of the usual £69.99. The retailing industry estimates cross-Channel sales account for 17 per cent of the beer drunk in Britain.

British-sold beer is subject to far higher duty levels than in France. Sainsbury's is backing its cheaper alcohol campaign with price cuts on turkeys and other festive foods.

A European duty-free sales were worth more than £1bn to the UK last year - a 17% rise on the 1996 figure - and more than twice that for the next highest EU member - Finland.

The statistics highlighted the need to fight next year's scrapping of duty-free and tax-free shopping, the Duty-Free Confederation said.

## Siamese twins 'stable' after life-saving op

SIAMESE TWINS separated in an emergency operation to save their lives remained in a "stable" condition in hospital yesterday.

The four-day-old girls, who had been joined at the liver, are in intensive care at Great Ormond Street children's hospital, where a spokeswoman said they had spent "a peaceful day" following "a very settled night".

The girls, who come from the Bristol area, lie side by side on ventilators while they recover from their three-hour operation which took place on Saturday.

Their parents now face an anxious wait to learn whether the girls' encouraging first 36 hours will develop into a full recovery. The hospital refused to comment further on the girls' chances of survival, saying only that it was "early days after a very major operation".

"They are both still poorly but stable. They are still at a very critical stage and are being monitored carefully," the spokeswoman said. "We are

BY KAREN EDWARDS

looking forward to a second settled night."

The twins were "unstable" during the operation at the London hospital and needed "external cardiac massage" to restart their hearts. Now they are receiving round-the-clock care from a team of specialist doctors and nurses.

Their father said: "We have been worried through the pregnancy, but during the operation we felt very confident in the surgeons and that everything possible was being done. We are now very anxious - waiting to see how the twins get on is very difficult."

A team of surgeons and anaesthetists carried out the emergency operation after the twins - who were born on Thursday - were airlifted to London from St Michael's Hospital in Bristol by a RAF helicopter on Friday afternoon after it was found that they were suffering from peritonitis.

## Chilly touch in theatre of cruelty

THE FINAL scene of Alban Berg's *Wozzeck* is like a mighty inflection in the chronicle of 20th-century music. It would seem to be the very point at which Mahler hands over his hard-won inheritance to Berg.

Christoph von Dohnanyi's Philharmonia concert series "Mahler and Vienna: Beginnings and Endings" seemed to begin and end there on Saturday night. It was one of several moments in this expensively cast and painstakingly prepared concert performance of Berg's opera which revealed Dohnanyi's reading for what it was: a fiercely objective but ultimately heartless account of this magnificent score.

The expressionist nightmare, the eternal "Scream" of

### FIRST NIGHT

WOZZECK  
PHILHARMONIA  
ORCHESTRA/DOHNANYI  
ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL  
LONDON

Edward Munch's notorious painting, is inside the hapless *Wozzeck's* head. Berg's orchestra is a lurid canvas of insanity, hallucination, and man's inhumanity to man. Only a solo horn dares to dream.

But perhaps the most remarkable feature of Berg's awesomely complex score is that it is achieved within the disciplines of strict compositional procedures. For method in madness, Dohnanyi is your

man. A fearlessly accomplished Philharmonia Orchestra laid bare the viscera of the score with ruthless clarity.

But there's much more to Berg's (and the playwright Buchner's) theatre of cruelty: An underlying compassion which surfaces only fleetingly during the course of this bad dream, but which sublimates in that great D minor interlude.

That Dohnanyi made so little of the great crescendo leading to its point of release was to me symptomatic of an emotional and theatrical frigidity at the moment where the opposite must be true. Just as the two mighty crescendos following the death of Marie serve as stark and shocking, so must this untimely climax

carry with it the entire opera's heartache. It didn't.

That burden fell to Franz Hawlata's *Wozzeck*, beautifully conveying the dementia which so paradoxically makes this simple man articulate. And to Deborah Polaski's Marie, so alive to the spirit and drama of the text. In Berg's gallery of grotesques, Eric Halfvarson's shaven-headed Doctor looked and sounded like his surname might be Death, while the Captain was, in Graham Clark's incisive performance, the personification of hypertension, the tessitura of the vocal line suggesting his scrawny neck stretched for *Wozzeck's* razor like a Ralph Steadman caricature. Now there's a thought.

Edward Seckerson



THIS WAS THE  
WEEK THAT WAS

Today On this day, 70 years ago, the lesbian classic, *The Well of Loneliness*, by Radclyffe Hall, was declared obscene and copies condemned to be burnt; later, it was thought tame enough for the *R4 Book at Bedtime* slot. In 1959, *The Sound of Music* opened on Broadway, not being silenced until 1,442 performances later.

Tomorrow Auguste Rodin died in 1917; the creator of *The Kiss* and *The Thinker* had failed the entrance exam to the École des Beaux-Arts three times and briefly became a trainee monk. The manuscript of *The Trial* was sold for £1m in 1988, to the annoyance of the ghost of unlucky Franz Kafka, who had died in poverty.

Wednesday In 1915, Audrey Munson, star of the movie *Inspiration*, beat Demi Moore to become the first leading lady to get her kit off, although she later branched out into roles that involved keeping her clothes on.

Thursday Count Anthony Matthioli, believed to have been the original for Alexandre Dumas's *The Man in the Iron Mask*, died in 1703. The recent film of the novel might also have benefited from being locked in the Bastille.

Friday In 1805, *Fidelio* opened in Vienna; it didn't help that Austria was currently under enemy occupation, that Beethoven was the third composer to have a shot at the libretto, and that the opera had to be extensively revised. Otherwise, Ludwig, a wonderful night.

Saturday René Magritte, born a century ago, could not answer the question: "How many Surrealists does it take to change a lightbulb?" (A fish.)

Sunday Mae West, showbiz legend who gave her name to the lifebelt, died in 1960. JONATHAN SALES

## Tango with strings attached

When a Buenos Aires bandoneon player teams up in a monastery with a leading European string quartet, you'd expect two worlds to collide. But then Dino Saluzzi has never been averse to a bit of the other. By Phil Johnson

It may take two to tango, but the partnership of Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamunde Quartet is hardly a conventional pairing. The 63-year-old Argentinian bandoneon player (it's a bigger, tango version of the button accordion), is a master improviser who is used to flying by the seat of his pants, despite his background in "serious" music. By contrast, the Munich-based string quartet are specialists in the 20th-century European classical repertoire, and therefore accustomed to playing from dots on the page.

It's an intriguing mix of cultural opposites, and one which highlights the contradictions underpinning the current popularity in the classical world of a music which began in the proletarian bars of Buenos Aires amid, as the great Argentinian writer Jorge Luis Borges wrote in his poem "The Tango": "A mythology of knife thrusts/slowly dying in oblivion". A further element is provided by the context for the project, which is an album for the German ECM label, an imprint whose reputation for crystalline purity of sound is perhaps as much of an influence on its recordings as the contributions of the performers themselves. Tango squeezebox meets high-art string quartet in the glacial of an ECM soundscape is quite a combination. To complicate matters even further, the bandoneon actually derives from the Ruhr region of Germany, where it was invented by one Heinrich Band in 1846, and later taken to Argentina by German emigrants.

The way Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamundes talk about *Kultrum*, their new album of tango variations, speaks volumes. The members of the quartet sit up straight and are punctilious in their attention to questions, while Saluzzi slouches and tends to favour grand Latin shrugs and gestures. The Rosamundes think seriously about music, their non-verbal communication seems to say, but for Saluzzi, it just is.

"It's our responsibility to create, to move, to give life," he says. "It's not technical. The technique is the first point; after this comes the art."

"Dino just plays what he wants, and we see from his face if what we do is wrong," says Anja Lechner, the quartet's cellist, who has prior ex-



The Rosamunde Quartet and Dino Saluzzi: 'It's our responsibility to create, to move, to give life'

perience of tango, having made four albums in the past. It's true that the quartet's English is better than Saluzzi's, but there's still a world of difference between them.

By the age of 14 Saluzzi (who, like much of tango itself, is of Sicilian descent), was already leading his first band, in the Salta province of Northern Argentina where he grew up. After studying in Buenos Aires he assisted his friend, the late, great composer Astor Piazzola in the formation of "Tango Nuevo", and also played in the group of the jazz saxophonist Gato Barbieri.

Later, as an exile in Europe, Saluzzi recorded for ECM with jazz musicians such as Charlie Haden and Don Cherry, pioneering a superior kind of "world music" mixing disparate folk forms with jazz. It was at a tango concert in Munich in 1984 that Anja Lechner saw Saluzzi play for the first time and decided that she would love to work with him one day, although the prospect seemed unlikely.

Happily the album Saluzzi and the quartet have made together adds up to more than just the sum of their parts. Instead, a strange sort of cross-cultural transference appears to have taken place. As the series of variations unfolds, the strings sound more and more impassioned, while the composer himself is uncharacteristically restrained until space is cleared for the improvised cadenzas which are neatly woven into each piece. Here, Saluzzi is suddenly set free, and the sounds of his instrument - which are incredibly diverse, at times suggesting a clarinet, or seeming to duplicate the violin, viola or cello of the quartet - soar into flight.

It is a process which is reinforced when the musicians perform in the church of the monastery of St Gerold's in the foothills of the Austrian Tyrol, where the album was recorded earlier this year. This is no ordinary venue: it is where Jan Garbarek and the Hilliard Ensemble's ECM album *Officium* - which has

sold 850,000 copies to date - was recorded in 1994, and in the spacious acoustic of the building Saluzzi's music really comes alive. It may be a long way from the bars of Buenos Aires, but the woody bloom of the strings fills the church and mixes most effectively with the breathy timbres of the bandoneon, whose wheezing between notes can be heard in the quietest moments. Unlike most other "fusion" projects, this one actually works as music rather than marketing.

"I hate fusion and this crossover nonsense," says Manfred Eicher of ECM, who has produced every release on the label since its formation in 1969. "There has always been cultural interaction between different styles, and these terms don't mean anything to me. We have chosen a string quartet, but it's not a fusion; it's coming out of Dino Saluzzi's own ideas and his previous solo work. It comes from the same genre, the same creator."

The idea of a specific ECM sound

or aesthetic is something that Eicher dismisses: "People often talk in clichés. What I think the ECM sound is, is more to do with the choice of musicians in the catalogue. It also has had a lot to do with my love of chamber music, and a poetic approach to music. My preference is towards music which has to do with transparency, with the movements of sound, but also with pauses and silence. It's not only the notes, but the thought behind them that sculpts sound, transforming what we hear in a church into a manifestation for the listener, who hopefully trusts this result of musicians, sound engineer and producer, since everyone listens to music with their own ears."

More likely to quote Goethe than to discuss the positioning of microphones, Eicher makes mysticism seem almost mundane. "It's the white space, the empty space between the tones, that's the inspirational source," he says, before going off to rehearse the musicians for their performance.



Roberto Masotti/Juan Hilfers

At the press conference, Saluzzi is growing more animated by the minute. "We have to be true to the idea of the simple people," he says in answer to a question about the album's mix of cultures. "Why make our territorial claim against someone else? We have to wake up to the human being more, to remain true to our dreams and our utopias, for our job is nothing if it is only for us."

The members of the quartet nod seriously in agreement, although in truth, it is not easy to see what Saluzzi is on about. That morning, as the sun suddenly comes out and lights up the snowcapped mountains in a manner reminiscent of Caspar David Friedrich - a stunning manifestation of the ECM aesthetic that is supposed not to exist - Manfred Eicher dispatches a photographer to record the moment. Some day it might appear as an ECM cover.

*'Kultrum'* by Dino Saluzzi and the Rosamunde String Quartet is out now on ECM

## THE INDEPENDENT

# 2 for 1 flight offers and Caribbean holidays

Starting today in The Independent don't miss our fantastic 'West Indies Eleven' holiday promotion. The 'West Indies Eleven' includes destinations such as Antigua, Barbados, Grenada, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Tobago and Port of Spain, some of the most exotic locations in the Caribbean.

The Independent has linked up with BWIA and the Rex Hotel Group to provide readers with some really great value Caribbean deals, two for the price of one.

BWIA are offering readers two flights for the price of one - £618 inclusive of UK departure tax - to travel to any of the eleven island destinations. Flights must be booked between 23 November and 11 December 1998. Travel must be taken between 1 January and 15 June 1999.

The Rex Hotel group are offering readers a choice of 3 to 5 star hotel accommodation on an all-inclusive basis and at a special two weeks for the price of one rate. These fantastic deals mean that you can enjoy a Caribbean two week holiday from as little as £1350 (inclusive of UK departure tax) for two people - only £670 per person.

## HOW TO ENTER:

To take up these fabulous offers all you have to do is collect any four tokens from The Independent or The Independent on Sunday over the next six days.  
1) Collect either by phone or in writing: Select Travel International Limited, 25 Darnley Road, Edinburgh, EH3 7RN. Telephone 0131 478 9000. Check your preferred dates and destinations. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. 2) Select Travel International Limited do not take cash payments, but will provide the information required to book the very special 2 for 1 BWIA flights and provide a voucher to which your four tokens should be attached. 3) To confirm your accommodation booking, you will be required to pay for your holiday in full by credit/debit card over the telephone. If you prefer to pay by cheque, the cheque must be received by Select no later than 10 days before your date of travel. You must then send the four tokens to Select.

For terms and conditions see page 16



TOKEN COLLECT

## A Seventies night devoid of glam

## THEATRE

SHANG-A-LANG  
THE BUSH, LONDON

AS A PLACE to wake up with a hangover in the early hours of your 40th birthday, the crazy golf course at Butlin's, Minehead, during a glam rock Seventies weekend in November would surely seem to fall short of the ideal. That's the fate, though, of Pauline (Nicola Redmond) in Catherine Johnson's new play, *Shang-a-Lang*.

Pauline's two best friends since school days - uptight family woman Jackie (Joanne Pearce) and the cheerfully slutty Lauren (Ona McCracken) who has abandoned her kids for a life of older and sex - have got off for the night with a couple of the Afro-wigged, black-greasepainted backing musicians in a soul tribute band. That, too, might not seem like the acme of human happiness. But for locked-out Pauline (unmarried, childless, her biological clock ticking loud enough to waken the dead), it would have been a start.

This show does for unreconstructed Bay City Roller



For unreconstructed Rollers fans only Geraint Lewis

fans what *Women on the Verge of Hysteria* did for the dotting aficionados of Daniel O'Donnell. Plays by female dramatists which deposit middle-aged women on weekend jaunts to see their idols tend to have two salient characteristics. Firstly, the women define themselves entirely in terms of sex (or the lack of it) and husbands (or the lack of them). And so, secondly, you feel that if a man had written such a piece, he would be howled down by feminists for patronising womankind.

In trying to question the inevitability of all this, through the character of Pauline, Johnson's play nonetheless falls into heavily predictable patterns. The

best night of her life, Pauline reveals, was when, as a teenager, she managed to clamber into the Bay City Rollers' van after a gig and snogged Woody. You brace yourself, from then on, for the moment at the end when Pauline will demonstrate a new-found maturity by rejecting Woody as a hampering fantasy. It's also par for the course that this breakthrough will be achieved by having her illusions about her friends shattered. Boasting a monopoly on sentimental untruthfulness, Pauline has failed to see that Jackie's marriage is quietly wrecked and that Lauren really is guilty-free about ditching her children. The play is, however, con-

sistently engaging and often very funny. Helped by Mike Bradwell's buoyant, well-acted production, it takes a likeably breezy, no-nonsense attitude to the tacky horror of these occasions which it presents with a chipper explicitness. Excellently played by Peter Jonfield and Stephen Graham, the tribute musicians (one a Sad Sack with custody worries; the other a horny little swagman) don't even bother to wash their black greasepaint off before bedding the women, which results in a revoltingly pythad nude moment when they get up amid the vomit and glam detritus the next morning. The play pulls you into the bloody awfulness of performing "covers" in a holiday camp as a fate. But there is always somebody worse off. Suppose you earned a crust impersonating Gary Glitter. "Poor old Gazza - his fucking tribute band's fucked," declares Carl with relish.

A sign at the door of the Bush says that some people may find offence in the language, situations, fashions, and music. If I were a former Roller, I'd sue. To 12 December. Box office 0181 743 3388

PAUL TAYLOR

## Poor Elvis, he never stood a chance

## JAZZ

JOE LOVANO/  
JOSHUA REDMAN  
BARBICAN, LONDON

year with a residency that few present will forget. Joshua Redman - son of Sixties Free Jazz saxophonist Dewey Redman - was destined to become a jazz star. Add the name to a lithe, sinewy tone, doe-eyed good looks and a penchant for bluesy, accessible note-picking and you get as close as this minority music can to an A&R wet room.

Lovano was on first. It's a rare musical presence that can give the cavernous Barbican Hall such an electric atmosphere, but from the very first, complicated headlong tumble of

notes, it was clear that Lovano's repertoire is built upon granite foundations.

His hour-long set was on a constant knife-edge of drama - drummer Idris Muhammad's tricky stop-start pulse providing a nervy backdrop to Lovano's wired style. There was a gorgeous ballad (in which Lovano seemed to nod to swing roots - Al Cohn and Zoot Sims), and some intense work on the unusual alto clarinet. But Lovano was all about spontaneity and the joys of improvisation, and he could have kept us transfixed all night.

Not even Elvis Presley, live at the Barbican with news from Lord Lucan and Princess Diana, could have followed Lovano with ease. Joshua Redman made a surprisingly game

attempt, relying less on his usual soulfulness and grace, and working up the Barbican audience with circular breathing, a cathedral reverberation, and throwing in the odd brutal drum solo to make the auditorium's monkey contingent scream. It was a slick and well rehearsed quartet, reworking standards (a Joni Mitchell tune and "Love for Sale"), split cleverly into seven and six time. Pianist Aaron Goldberg played a heroic solo on "Eleanor Rigby" after Redman had picked up a soprano sax and turned the performance into something consciously reminiscent of the Coltrane Quartet. All exciting enough, but it will be Lovano who will be best remembered in the morning.

LINTON CRUSWICK

# Stand up, Britain's Spike Lee

Black British film-makers struggle for backing. Minority audience, say distributors. But good writing is good writing, isn't it? By Lesley Downer

Ngozi Onwurah is regaling a panel of five commissioning editors at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) with the tale of Utende, a young girl who flees war-torn Biafra and ends up in Newcastle. "And, as Rudi Gullit is going to find out," she adds wryly, "Newcastle in the winter is a very strange place for a black person to be."

Cold, miserable and bullied, Utende finally finds happiness through horses. At the moment, *Utende's Gymkhana*, is no more than a script idea; though, if Onwurah is lucky, it may one day be a film.

Black actors frequently complain that there are few parts for them and those there are tend to be stereotyped. The problem boils down to scripts. Ninety per cent, as one casting director put it, are written by white, middle-class men who write parts for white, middle-class men. Where are the black scriptwriters creating stories featuring complex and varied black characters? Where are the black sitcoms and the black feature films? Why do we not have a British Spike Lee or Denzel Washington? These were among the issues which Black Talent of the Future, a day long event at BAFTA recently, set out to confront.

Unlike America, where black people have been around as long as, if not longer, than most whites, Britain is just beginning to come to terms with the notion of being a multicultural society. Most of the budding scriptwriters at BAFTA today are first-generation British; their parents arrived as immigrants from the Caribbean, Africa or Asia. This means that there are no role models, nor an older generation of black scriptwriters for them to follow. Pioneers, breaking new ground, what most want is to claim their heritage as Britons - to be seen as film-makers, not black film-makers.

But so far, few have had the chance to show what they can do.

While the first part of the event was talent-spotting (with a prize of £1000 each for two winners, and the chance to have their script made into a film), the second was a showcase for completed films by black film-makers, most of which were shorts because of the difficulty encountered in getting funding.

Most were made on a shoestring, with the cast and crew giving their services for nothing. *The Wedding*, by Marcia Green, who is still at film school, is a witty look at the experience of feeling and being British while looking black. *Veena's Drink Up*, a very funny film about sex, lies and mobile phones, was made by 26-year-old Adrian Brown with a bank loan of £4,000. Alrick Riley's first film, *Money Talks*, made while he was at film school, was shown at 17 international film festivals and won several prizes. He topped up his prize money to £21,000 to make his second feature, *Concrete Garden*, a touching story about a Jamaican child who arrives in a cold corner of Britain to live with parents she has never known, and a little brother she didn't know existed.

But is it really more difficult for black film-makers than for any other young hopefuls to break through?

Says Riley: "One distributor told me to my face that if he hears of a black project, he quite simply says, 'No way'. They can't gauge what kind of money it's going to make. It's very difficult for them to make what is, as far as they're concerned, the leap of faith into the unknown in order to bankroll a black movie. People have an expectation when they first see me that I'm only going to want to do black subjects."

The people with their hands on the purse strings - commissioners, distributors and producers - have to be sure that they are going to get a return on their investment. They assume that a black writer or director can only tell black stories, about black issues, featuring black actors, and fear that a film set in the black community will be of limited



Film-makers, not black film-makers: clockwise from bottom left, Alrick Riley, Treva Etienne and Riley's 'The Cops'

interest to anyone else. In a word, it will not make money.

Jan Oliver, assistant to Mark Thompson, controller of BBC2, is one of the organisers of the event: "It's the content, the kinds of stories black people want to tell - what happened to us, being born in this country and brought up in this country. Our problem in TV is that middle England is our main audience. If they never see black people, why should they want to watch programmes about them?"

There are plenty of films about the black-American experience. As Spike Lee and other directors have shown, if a film is good, audiences will go and see it, whether the actors are black, white or purple. No one disputes the fascination which black culture exerts; its tremendous influence on music, street culture

and street language. So why should we not be interested in black films?

In any case, there is no reason why, just because a scriptwriter is black, he should restrict himself to black subjects. Alrick Riley is a case in point. Now 36, he has written a drama, *Choices*, about gang warfare in north London, and directed three episodes of *The Cops* (one of them transmitting tonight), a realistic look at the police with no black angle at all.

The first hurdle is money. But even when that is overcome, there is a second obstacle: distribution. The longest and most ambitious film of the BAFTA evening was *Monument*, directed by Patrick Robinson (Ash in *Casualty*). It's about a journalist and newscaster who discovers that the wreck of a slave ship has been found in the Bristol Channel.

*Monument* was broadcast on ITV but has yet to receive a wider showing. Turned down by the Edinburgh and London Film Festivals, it has little chance of being seen by a wide audience. Rather like the journalist in his film, Robinson feels that he is banging his head against a brick wall.

There's so much talent out there that is not getting the opportunities," he says. "I can't help but think that it can only be because we're black and that they have only got a certain amount of allocated spaces for blacks... It gets put into a multi-cultural slot or a late-night slot, not prime time or mainstream. My film is not a black film, it's just a film. We're not talking about black writing, we're just talking about good writing."

Tonight sees the start of a new series of *Return of the Ba Ba Zee*,

a showcase for films and documentaries by black film-makers, scheduled inevitably for 11 pm. It includes two films by the actor, Treva Etienne, who starred in the popular TV series, *London's Burning*, and the award-winning BBC3 drama, *Holding On*. Driving Miss Crazy and A Woman Scorned, both funny and very sophisticated looks inside the female psyche, were made for a total of £8000 "plus a lot of favours" and have had no showing apart from at the BAFTA event.

Says Etienne: "America is a lot more open to the British ethnic voice - it's fresh, it's not something that they've seen before. In this country, we're still getting to grips with the idea that people from different ethnic backgrounds can make films. We haven't really had a commercial success with an ethnic film

from this country. We need a *Four Weddings*... or a *Crying Game* or a *Full Monty* to open the door in order to get people interested in the idea of investing more in films by black film-makers."

So who will be the British Spike Lee? Hopefully it can only be a matter of time before one of these ambitious young film-makers gets the opportunity to break into the mainstream and create the great black British movie.

*Return of the Ba Ba Zee* is on Channel 4 at 11pm tonight and on Monday nights for the next four weeks. Episodes 4, 5 and 6 of *The Cops*, directed by Alrick Riley, are currently showing on Monday nights at 9 pm on BBC2, repeated on Saturdays at 11.15pm; episode 5 is tonight

## TV VIDEOWATCH

MIKE HIGGINS

'I'm Alan Partridge', Vols 1 & 2, £12.99 each

HOLED UP in a motorway travel lodge, his chat show canned and his wife departed, Alan Partridge is, as he might put it, up a creek without a mid-sized outboard: the Travel Tavern receptionist can only stifle a snigger when he tells her what vandals have scrawled on his beloved Ford Granada; the BBC commissioning editor is unmoved by Alan's ideas for re-launching his television career (whatever its educational benefits, *Knowing M.E., Knowing You* is a non-starter).

In fact, so minutely is Partridge's personal and profes-



sional hell detailed that you're well into the second of the six episodes before it dawns on you how radically different this second Partridge vehicle is from the first. *Knowing Me, Knowing You*

You. That set itself up as a chat show, in which Alan never lost an opportunity to upstage, humiliate or enrage his guests with his golf-chub bar prejudices and fairway wisdom. Those involved may have been fictional but there was a hilarious, ghastly truth in the jibes and stilted bon mots that Partridge traded with the D-list celebrities that graced his sofa.

*Knowing Me, Knowing You* set its sights as much on the chat show as did the feckless Alan. I'm Alan Partridge gives him nowhere to hide, however, placing Alan in a more traditional sit-com setting. There's a bit of media leg-pulling as we see the depths to which Alan

has descended, hosting his early morning Norwich radio show, *Up With The Partridge*. But, for the most part, the series rests on Steve Coogan's superb performance and the well-handled development of Alan from a classic grotesque to something (God forbid) slightly more sympathetic.

He's still as monstrous as ever, abusing his personal assistant and mercilessly patronising everyone who makes the mistake of talking to him for more than 30 seconds. However, you always felt that Coogan had a sneaky liking for his finest creation and occasionally you even end up feeling sorry for him.

## To bloop or not to bloop?

A new CD of radio cock-ups isn't as funny as it might be. By Robert Hanks

BOWLERS, TYPOS and malapropisms have always been a source of entertainment, but the last couple of decades have seen a dramatic rise in our consumption of them, particularly on television. No doubt this is partly a matter of economics - out-takes are pretty cheap, and I can't imagine it costs that much to hire Denis Norden for the evening. Perhaps, too, it says something about the decline of deference, our eagerness to see even minor authority figures, such as new-readers and weathermen, caught with their pants down. More optimistically, it may say something about an increased public tolerance for fallibility, because, as often as not, it is shared embarrassment rather than pure *schadenfreude* which prompts us to laugh at mistakes and accidents.

All of these factors play a part in *Bloopers Gold*, a CD compilation of "classic" radio moments being sold in aid of the British Wireless for the Blind Fund, which is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. Unfortunately, Jonathan Hewart, who has compiled, produced and presents the entire thing, has not given much thought to what it is that makes a "blooper" funny. This has two results: one is that his commentary, with its relent-



Brian Johnston: celebrated giggling commentator

lessly facetious "Dear, oh dear" tone of voice, too often undermines the rather sad humour of the piece. There is nothing intrinsically amusing about hearing a newsreader suffering a fit of the giggles over the Rev Canon Banana (not unless you are under 10); it is the crack in the façade, the unintended admission of frailty, which makes it rather sweet.

The other, more damaging result is that he has chosen a lot of bloopers which just aren't funny. Too many of these revolve round double (or near double) entendres: a woman called Regina, a rowing cox, and more quips about balls than you could shake a stick at. (You would think that sports commentators would work through the humorous possibilities of balls at a very early stage in

their careers. You would be sadly mistaken.) In some cases, the simple inability to pronounce a word is supposed to be the cue for humour, but this doesn't always work - for instance, "invalidity benefit" is such an inherently unfunny concept that no amount of stammering and gibbering can change it.

Some of the other extracts here do not involve things going wrong at all. One of these is the hysterically triumphant Norwegian football commentator ("Maggie Thatcher! Can you hear me? Maggie Thatcher! Your boys took a hell of a beating!") - not that anybody will be unhappy to own a copy of this extraordinary moment. Apart from anything else, you can take the time to replay it, and wonder exactly why he invoked

Anthony Eden and Clement Attlee as champions of Albion.

The one unquestioned classic here is the great Hastings Banda interview, in which the future dictator of Malawi answers each question with a confident "I won't tell you that." "Are you going to tell me anything?" "Nothing." "Are you going to tell me why you've been to Portugal?" "That's my business." It is a masterpiece of patient inquiry to compare with Paxman's grilling of Michael Howard. Elsewhere, there is one perfectly-timed belch, a reference to Eric Cantona's fracas with a Crystal Phalutis pan, Brian Johnston giggling, and a quiz competitor asked who wrote *Mein Kampf*; heavy hinting helps him to work out that the first name is Adolf and the first syllable of the surname is Hit, but he still can't quite put his finger on it.

Of course, the real difficulty with marketing this CD is that these days you can get all the bloopers you want for free just by listening to the BBC radio news. Ah well, it is for charity.

To order 'Bloopers Gold' or 'Bloopers Silver', send a cheque for £8.99, payable to '26 Design', to Bloopers Gold CD, BWFB, Gabriel House, 34 New Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4QR

## THE RATINGS

Gratifying to see Delia Smith's ratings boiled by Marge, Homer and the kiddywinks. Not to mention Ian Hislop.

Still, nothing in TV land can hold a tallow lamp to *Corrie* - not even *Divorces From Hell* (No 15 with a silver bullet)

Programme	Total (millions)
1 Have I Got News For You?	5.97
2 The Simpsons (Mon 18.20)	4.58
3 The Simpsons (Tue)	4.55
4 The Cops	4.24
5 The Simpsons (Mon 18.00)	4.17
6 Geoff Hamilton's Gardens	4.16
7 The Natural World	4.13
8 Delia's How To Cook	4.04
9 The Simpsons (Fri)	4.00
10 Blackadder Goes Forth	3.68

Programme	Total (millions)
1 Coronation St (Wed)	17.89
2 Coronation St (Mon)	17.47
3 Coronation St (Fri)	17.19
4 Coronation St (Sun)	16.81
5 Heartbeat	14.64
6 Emmerdale (Tue/Wed)	13.14
7 Emmerdale (Thu)	12.05
8 Emmerdale (Wed)	11.87
9 Grafters	11.49
10 National TV Awards	10.90

EN The Barber of Seville  
Rossini  
November 25 | 28  
December 1 | 3 | 7 | 10  
January 19 | 22 | 26 | 28 | 30  
February 4 | 11 at 7.30pm  
Tickets from £5  
Box Office 0171 632 8300  
24 hours

# NETWORK

## But it's only a game...

The BBFC says a new video game is too violent. The rest of the world disagrees. By Matthew Burgess

Successful UK software publisher SCI is squaring up to the British Board of Film Classification for what could be an important test case for video-games censorship. The BBFC has been stonewalling SCI over the certification of its latest PC title, Carmageddon 2: Carcarnapocalypse Now. SCI is taking legal action to force a decision on the game, a demo of which has now been with the BBFC for almost three months.

Carmageddon 2 is a driving game with a difference - the player is encouraged to mow down hapless pedestrians and ram opponents off the road. It is undeniably violent, but the violence is of the tongue-in-cheek variety that can trace its lineage back to the Acme explosives and falling pianos of

Fifties cartoons. With its heavy-metal soundtrack and pneumatic female characters, the game is adolescence encapsulated, which begs the question: why has it been taken so seriously by adults?

The BBFC's objection to Carmageddon 2 is that it may cause "damage" to children exposed to the game. It claims the latest reason for the certifying delay is that it wants to put the demo to a panel of "child psychologists" to determine the extent of such "damage".

Jane Cavanagh, chief executive of SCI, described this decision as "ludicrous": "We're requesting an 18 certificate, which means this version is designed for adults. The original has sold 600,000 copies throughout the world. Nobody has been 'damaged'. On the contrary, we've received sac-

loads of letters saying how much everyone loves the game and how entertaining it is." SCI experienced similar problems last year with the first Carmageddon. The BBFC refused to issue a certificate, thus "banning" the sale of the game in the UK. SCI appealed against the decision under Article 10a of the European Convention of Human Rights and successfully overturned the "ban", the BBFC instructed to grant an 18 certificate.

"This repeat performance of last year's delaying tactics can only be a result of severe 'sour grapes' at the BBFC for losing the appeal last year," Cavanagh said. "Why don't they just accept they made a mistake and move on?"

The repeated delays have forced SCI to release a version of the game with green blood

and zombies rather than red-blooded pedestrians. This has been given a 15 rating by the European Leisure and Software Publishers Association (ELSPA), the game industry's self-regulatory body, which is supervised by the Video Standards Council. Interviewed in

industry journal, CTW, Roger Bennett, general secretary of ELSPA, blasted the BBFC as being "patently inefficient" and "very difficult to communicate with". Bennett thinks that game regulation should be dealt with entirely by the Video Standards Council.

"We believe that the VSC have been extraordinarily successful at rating the 94 per cent of games published since 1994. There has been just one complaint in that time. Given our stated beliefs about the BBFC, we really do believe that the VSC are both better equipped and qualified to rate all games - their track record speaks for itself."

The BBFC's decision, when it eventually arrives, will be largely irrelevant to any UK gamer who wants to play the uncensored version. With the international release of Carmageddon 2, SCI posted several "patches" on its international Carmageddon 2 support Web site (based in America). With these patches, players can alter various aspects of the game, including the transformation of

zombies into pedestrians. Within the first day of the game's UK release, thousands of players downloaded the patches.

"The patches are text files, not moving images, and they are available free of charge from a US-based Internet server [http://www.carmageddon.com]. Cavanagh said. "These points alone take any 'patch' out of the jurisdiction of the UK's Video Recordings Act and, therefore, the scope of the BBFC. Apart from that, there are some 50 million Internet users throughout the world with no electronic territorial boundaries. It makes censorship on a country-by-country basis impossible for a national-based organisation."

The BBFC's unwillingness to explain or account for its actions indicates that its censor-

ship decisions do not seem totally fair. Compare the delaying tactics on Carmageddon 2 with the preferential treatment handed out to Hollywood blockbusters. Tim Burton's *Batman* received a new certificate (12) rather than lose a lot of its audience to the 15 certificate that its violence merited. *Jurassic Park*, and its sequel, *The Lost World*, were also allowed to bend the rules, obtaining a PG certificate on the proviso that posters warned children of their "disturbing scenes".

In the added light of the recent decision by Australia's conservative Office of Film and Literature Classification to award the "full gore" version of Carmageddon 2 a 15 certification, the BBFC's stance is looking at best unreasonable, at worst childish.



The BBFC is concerned that Carmageddon 2 may cause 'damage' to the children who play it



At Orange we believe that no matter where you are in the world you should never be out of reach. Orange Answer Fax is your own personal fax service. It allows you to receive all faxes on one number, and then collect them on the nearest fax machine whenever it's convenient for you. For more information on Answer Fax or other Orange innovations call 0800 323 000. The future's bright. The future's Orange.

www.orange.co.uk/innovation

## BYTES

ANDY OLDFIELD

LAST WEEK, Netscape Communications entered a fresh market with the announcement of new Netcenter services and software, BillerKper, to enable companies to process payments over the Net. Netscape says its software allows companies such as banks, telecommunications and domestic utility service providers not only to save on billing costs by using e-mail and the Internet, but also to strengthen links with customers by letting them change and configure their own services.

As part of its initiative to strengthen the appeal of Netcenter to small businesses, Netscape said it is buying AlWeb, a provider of products and web-design management and marketing services to small and independent businesses. The acquisition will help integrate 600,000 small business websites with Netcenter's installed user base of 70 million. Netscape hopes to complete the acquisition in a stock deal by the end of 1999's first quarter.

MICROSOFT AND Qualcomm have each invested \$25m to form a joint company, WireLess Knowledge, aimed at expanding the availability of digital information over wireless devices, including telephones and handheld appliances. Cellphone operators in the US such as AT&T, BellSouth and Sprint have agreed to support the data service which could be in operation by April.

WireLess Knowledge aims to integrate different wireless networks and different devices through a network operating centre, allowing people to use digital phones, Windows-based desktop computers, and Windows CE-based handheld devices to connect to the Internet and corporate networks using Microsoft software. Microsoft and Qualcomm also said they will work to incorporate Windows CE

into a forthcoming custom chip that Qualcomm can use in cell phone designs. They will also co-operate on integrating Windows CE into a variety of wireless devices.

APPLE AIMS to have a new version of QuickTime ready for release in January, expected to facilitate live audio and video streaming over the Internet and allow Apple to compete on features with Microsoft's NetShow streaming software. Despite current limitations, QuickTime is still installed in nearly 70 per cent of Windows PCs. Meanwhile, Microsoft has released a patch to fix the support of QuickTime in its Windows media player. It said that it had not deliberately disabled the software, as alleged in the anti-trust case currently under way, but that the fault lay in bad programming and faulty design by Apple.

E-COMMERCE IN Britain received a boost last week with the opening of UK versions of two online travel sites. Microsoft's Expedia, <http://expedia.msn.co.uk> and Travelocity, <http://www.travelocity.co.uk>, are both successful American sites tailoring their services for the British market. In the US, Expedia has sold one million tickets in two years, while Travelocity has sold 2.5 million and reports month-on-month sales rises of 37 per cent.

IBM last Wednesday unveiled the largest hard drives available for PCs. A 25Gb drive, the Deskstar 25GP, operating at 5,400 revolutions per minute, is designed for the consumer PC user. The 22Gb Deskstar 22GXP drive, operating at a faster 7,200 revolutions per minute, is targeted at video editors, engineers and scientists. The drives will be available

in PCs on sale before Christmas in systems from IBM, Gateway and Hewlett-Packard. In the first quarter of next year, the drives will be widely available.

IBM has announced the formation of a new software company, Corepoint Technologies, offering customer service and management software integrating voicemail, the Web and database information. The focus on customer services software is part of a strategy shift as IBM targets the higher-profit computer services and software businesses, lessening its reliance on hardware sales.

ATTENTION IN the anti-trust trial brought against Microsoft by the US government turned to the so-called Wintel partnership between the software company and Intel. The Department of Justice (DOJ) said Microsoft had bullied Intel into dropping work on its own multimedia and Internet software. The DOJ argued that Microsoft feared Intel's Native Signal Processing (NSP) software, which used instructions from Intel's chips rather than Microsoft software code to make programs and applications run faster. In video excerpts, Bill Gates, Microsoft CEO, said its opposition was based on technical issues.

Steven McGeady, Intel's vice-president for content, said Microsoft made "credible and fairly terrifying" threats that support for Intel's MMX and P7 chips would be withheld if NSP development continued. McGeady said Microsoft had behaved similarly in trying to force Intel not to support Sun's Java programming language. Microsoft responded by using e-mail sent by McGeady to other companies to portray him as a disgruntled employee who held a grudge against Microsoft.

# Damn! What a nice, bookish tycoon

The boss of Amazon.com is a cheerful guy who smiles a lot. And so he should, having made £2bn from his online bookstore. By Steve Homer

Jeff Bezos laughs a lot. But then again, why shouldn't he? He is a healthy 34-year-old, happily married, has a big yellow labrador, lives in a lovely house, loves his job, and, oh yes, in the last four years has made himself about \$2bn selling books on the Internet, as the most successful online retailer.

You could forgive the founder of Amazon.com - which is yet to move into profit - all this if he were your usual miserable paranoid business mogul. But he's not. He's a very nice guy. It's very irritating.

Four years ago Bezos was a high-flyer on Wall Street. Working in a quantitative hedge fund (don't ask, as he was a senior vice-president and doing very nicely. One day, looking around on the Web, he came across a number "In the spring of '94, I found Web usage was growing at 2,200 per cent a year. It's very unusual that something grows that fast," he recalls with a chuckle.

Bezos knew that quite a number of people were already using the Web. So he extrapolated. "Anything with a non-trivial base line growing at 2,200 per cent a year might be invisible today but would be ubiquitous tomorrow. That was the wake-up call."

He carefully analysed 20 different products he thought could be sold on the Net. "You had to be able to build something that offered enough value to the customer for people to want to use this new and infant technology. Really, that meant you had to do something that could only be done online. I picked books primarily because there are so many different [titles] - there were more items in the category than in any other," Bezos explains. "Over three million books are actively in print. No one could build a book store with three million titles. The largest bookstores in the world - and there are only three this big - carry 170,000 titles. Most book shops have 30,000 to 100,000 titles."

Bezos, being something of a nerd (he studied computer science at Princeton University), invented "recommenderisation". "I projected myself into the future... When I am 80, what do I want to have done? I knew I would never regret having left Wall Street in the middle of the year, having forgone my 1994 bonus. By the time you are 80 you are not going to remember any of those things. But I thought I might regret not being involved in this thing called the Internet. Once I thought about it in that sort of way, I knew I would not regret taking the risk."

The first thing he needed was a base for his business. For many people, the Net is a virtual world, so you

can build your business anywhere. But if you want to build a large business, you will need staff. And that means a decent-sized city.

"Our base had to be in a city with a large pool of technical talent. I narrowed it down to four places, and settled on Seattle." Not only is Seattle a pool of technical talent (Microsoft is based there, as are many other computer firms), but it is near the largest book warehouse in the world.

Next, Bezos went for the traditional Silicon Valley approach for his HQ. "We rented a house and the office was in the garage. I wanted some of the start-up legitimacy that comes with starting in a garage." With this he dissolves into laughter yet again. "Now I know why people move out of garages though," he adds, laughing even harder. "It is not that they run out of room, it is that

*At the start, orders were growing so fast that the bell rung for each new sale was switched off. 'It got very annoying,' remembers Bezos*

they run out of electrical power. We had so many computers... that the circuit breakers kept tripping."

In one of the Net's neatest ironies, Barnes and Noble - the world's biggest book firm, Amazon.com's largest competitor in the online book market, and probably the company with the most to lose from the Amazon revolution - proved invaluable for the fledgling company. "We couldn't really bring people to our office, so we held all our early meetings in a café two miles away, which just happened to be inside a Barnes and Noble store."

Creating business relationships with suppliers and distributors was a big challenge, but getting book details on to Amazon's computers was a massive, laborious job. "We had over a year to do it. We used a variety of sources and some of it was hand-keyed in. There was no shortcut," Bezos recalls. "It was just a lot of hard work. Sometimes we would get data on the same book from multiple sources, but it would be in conflict so we built all sorts of heuristics [programs] to resolve that kind of ambiguity." Then it was just the minor question of developing the soft-

ware, testing the product, and getting the ball rolling. For most people this might have meant an advertising campaign, but Jeff Bezos did not even have a marketing budget.

"The Internet was a much smaller place three years ago. It's hard to actually remember... what the Internet was like three years ago. We had 300 beta customers [testing the system]. These were friends. We would e-mail them and would say: 'Please come and put our system through its paces, but don't tell anybody what we are doing.' Then [after six weeks], when we finally had all the bugs worked out of the system, we sent an e-mail to [them] to say we were ready and could they please tell their friends about it. And these friends told other friends."

By electronic word of mouth, and by being featured on the very young Yahoo site, Amazon's name spread rapidly. "In July 1995, we had our first real paying customer. It is very exciting when you get your first customer who is not a relative. All the staff were saying: 'Do you know this person? I don't know this person. Hey, how about you? Do you know this person?'" Bezos laughs hysterically remembering.

At first all Amazon's computers were set to sound a bell as an order came in, but that soon got switched off. "It got very annoying. In the very beginning it was just half a dozen sales a day, but within a few days it was several tens a day. Within a couple of months it was a hundred or more and then it accelerated. It was compound growth. If things double every day it doesn't take long to build up big numbers." Things grew much faster than even Bezos expected. "Our business plan does not even begin to resemble what has actually happened. I think one thing we missed was that the Internet was exclusively made up of early adopters at that time. So all the people online, even though it was a relatively small number compared with today, were [those] who liked to try new things."

"We had a unique proposition. On day one we were 10 times the size of the largest bookstores - it was over a million titles. So people were finding obscure books they'd been looking for for years and saying this was unbelievable. And they'd order, not expecting it to really work, thinking they did not have much to lose. And then the book would come and they would really be blown away. And then they would tell all their friends."

As a result Amazon has grown and grown. In just over three years it has serviced 4.5 million customers. Not orders, customers. Sales run at about \$600m a year and Amazon is



Jeff Bezos laughs a great deal as he tells the story of Amazon.com

Nicola Kurtz

valued at over \$6bn. And today, it has its own five giant book warehouses.

So where now for Amazon's so nice boss? Last month he launched Amazon.co.uk, which is growing faster than its parent. It is exciting, but it really is just more of the same.

What excites Jeff Bezos is moving the business along. Four months

ago Amazon launched its online CD sales and has already become the world's biggest online music retailer. Next up is videos. But these specific lines are just the start.

"Our strategy is to become an electronic commerce destination. When somebody thinks about buying something online, even if it is

something we do not carry, we want them to come to us. We would like to make it easier for people online to find and discover the things they might want to buy online, even if we are not the ones selling them."

Bezos plans to link up with other merchants and direct customers to their sites - no doubt for a fee. But

the interview is getting just a little serious. So one last question: "Are you still enjoying creating this business?" "Oh yeah. I love computers. I love business. I love rapidly changing environments. How could I have a better job?"

With that, he dissolves into yet more helpless laughter.

## Linux proves itself a worthy opponent to Windows giant

A few days ago a large US retailer confirmed that it will use a Linux-based solution for its new retail systems in more than 100 stores. Jay Jacobs, a men's and women's clothing chain, has officially announced that open source software is an acceptable alternative to Windows NT for running a commercial retail operation. Linux, for those who are not on top of the IT trends, is a free, open standard operating system which happily competes with Windows NT and is actually got a good chance of taking on the Microsoft biggie.

Linux runs off any hardware platform and, except for high-end multiprocessor tasks, has recorded a superior performance over both Unix and NT. It is continuously developed by an army of enthusiastic volunteers who run a special community of users, developers, documentation writers, support people and testers. It is free and support is provided by a number of software companies such as Red Hat.

Jay Jacobs' announcement marks a milestone in the transition of Linux from a hobbyist environment to a fully-fledged, industrial robust software platform. It may have helped at Oracle, Informix and Intel, but the fully supportive of Linux and have gone on record with their commitment. Many top IT suppliers are tired of Mi-

crosoft's hegemony and will happily support the Linux alternative as long as the new baby does the job.

Open source software has become a way of life for a large number of developers since Netscape released its source code a few months ago. That seismic move rattled the cage of the proprietary-oriented software companies and signalled the beginning of a new era in which the wit and intelligence of the collective programming skills of volunteers will take on the mighty software companies.

The risks are still high. Linux does not work for the large, multiprocessor tasks, and its support base, although enthusiastic, has not quite yet proven to be of industrial proven to be of industrial strength. So why did Jay Jacobs' IT people go for Linux?

One of the reasons might have been the number of bad experiences the company had with proprietary software, where the moment you complete the development, you face a constant threat of lack of support. The reasons for ceasing support are countless. There may be a new version of the application coming up, and the supplier will not support the old one. There may be a recession and your vendor has gone out of business. There may have been a shift in the market and the product was

discontinued. Finally, it may not be supported on that new machine you have just obtained as part of the carefully thought through upgrade. Many long-suffering owners of e-commerce system in the UK are currently in that boat, where some of the large IT suppliers have changed alliances rather suddenly and the current version of their e-commerce application has suddenly stopped being the centre of company strategy. Clients can be asked to change to a Microsoft solution because Unix is not on the supplier's list of partners. If the client's architecture doesn't allow that, then they are on their own.

Since Linux is simpler to develop for than NT because it has



EVA PASCOE

*Many IT suppliers will readily support an alternative to Microsoft's hegemony*

open source code, it has created a hydra of multiple pro-

gramming heads in various parts of the world. This problem is identified quickly, solved and the results shared by posting them in newsgroups. This speed of knowledge growth is staggering and net users of Linux or NT can even start to compete, considering that each of them have a limited number of developers on their teams, while Linux has the headspace of thousands of the cleverest young programmers.

However, this is where the drama starts. Realising that Linux is gathering momentum, Microsoft has just woken up and developed a "kill" strategy. Two memos, leaked on Halloween night from high-level Microsoft cyborgs, have demonstrated that Bill Gates is

not going to let Linux steal the show. The memos identify the success of Linux as a function of allowing people to use open protocols such as e-mail or HTML, and therefore forcing Microsoft to live with a commoditised environment. According to the leaked memos, those protocols can be "de-commoditised". In effect, that will destroy the environment in which many people can develop new applications due to open standard in a widely accessible environment.

Now is the time for swift action to freeze the open standards of key protocols and impose heavy fines on the companies which don't toe the line. The de-commoditising of open standard protocols would

quickly lead to higher prices for networked applications, suppressing competition, reducing choice and, worst of all, having more Microsoft on our desktops, cash tills, TVs, organisers and other future computing devices.

The stellar progress of Linux makes us all question what infrastructure is required to write good code. If a virtual team of worldwide hobbyists can come up with the goods that a bunch of highly paid people in big companies with big company cars couldn't resolve, then what is the added value of a corporate structure based around programming teams?

Before Linux, it was a commonly shared assumption that anarchy is worse than organi-

sation, and that software written by developers organised in tidy teams and supervised by a manager in a suit is better than software developed by volunteers in a self-organised community with no manager in sight.

If I were an IT manager, I would be very worried indeed. The inflated costs of software we pay today to cover managers and their cars will go out of the window when clients realise that there is an alternative thanks to open source code. Bill Gates should be joining the hackers, or taking a deep breath. If Linux continues its progress, it will not be good news for Microsoft, but it will be great news for the consumer. [eva@never.com](mailto:eva@never.com)



**FREE Online.net** Your Internet access just became **FREE**

**We've got something to shout about**

- FREE Internet access via UK wide 0845 number
- FREE unlimited webspace
- FREE Technical Support on CD, via Web and e-mail
- FREE Set-up & subscription
- Telephone support available 7am - 11pm everyday on 0890 99 88 77 6
- FREE e-mail addresses
- Standard Modems, x2, V.90, & ISDN access
- FREE unlimited aliases

To request your FREE CD starter pack e-mail [sales@free-online.net](mailto:sales@free-online.net)

or call **0870 70 60 506**

SIGN-UP ONLINE NOW

**www.free-online.net**



# 3D goes to town

Three-dimensional computer modelling could revive public interest in 'boring' but vital town hall decisions. By Paul Gosling

Competing pressures over land use are growing, with environmental groups winning support to resist most new development. Yet there is a strong expectation of continued economic growth – and a recent report from two Government departments concluded that the slowness of local authorities in taking planning decisions holds back commercial expansion.

But planning decisions can move away from the dry and boring council committee room and into a forum of open public debate if a system of "3D modelling" is adopted, say the system's authors. New plans would be seen not just on a map, but as virtual reality while pretending to walk down a high street, stroll across a field, or look out from the back garden.

The new system has been developed in the Netherlands, where competing planning pressures on land use are enormous, with a high-density population and one of the world's most heavily used airports, Schiphol in Amsterdam, causing noise pollution across a wide area of flat countryside. The Dutch government is keen to achieve a consensus on plans for coping with the expanding air traffic.

"Speaking Netherlands", as the project is called, is currently being implemented in three areas to improve public consultation for contentious planning issues. The "Win-Wind" project enables people to see the visual impact of proposed new wind generators. Another scheme is to plan the evolution of the River Maas, around Maastricht, to reconcile industrial development with the desire to improve the river as a habitat for nesting birds. The third project is to plan development in the Arnhem area.

"We want to get groups to understand each other's needs, to have them understand the urbanisation problem, to have each understand where others are coming from, and reach good compromises," says Ben Heideveld, an IT architect with Cap Gemini, one of the system's developers. "It is only by the grace of so many people living in high rises that there are still open spaces in the Netherlands. But if we go on putting up cities arbitrarily, we will lose all our big corners of open space. And we need

to look at skyline pollution, which is a big issue in the Netherlands."

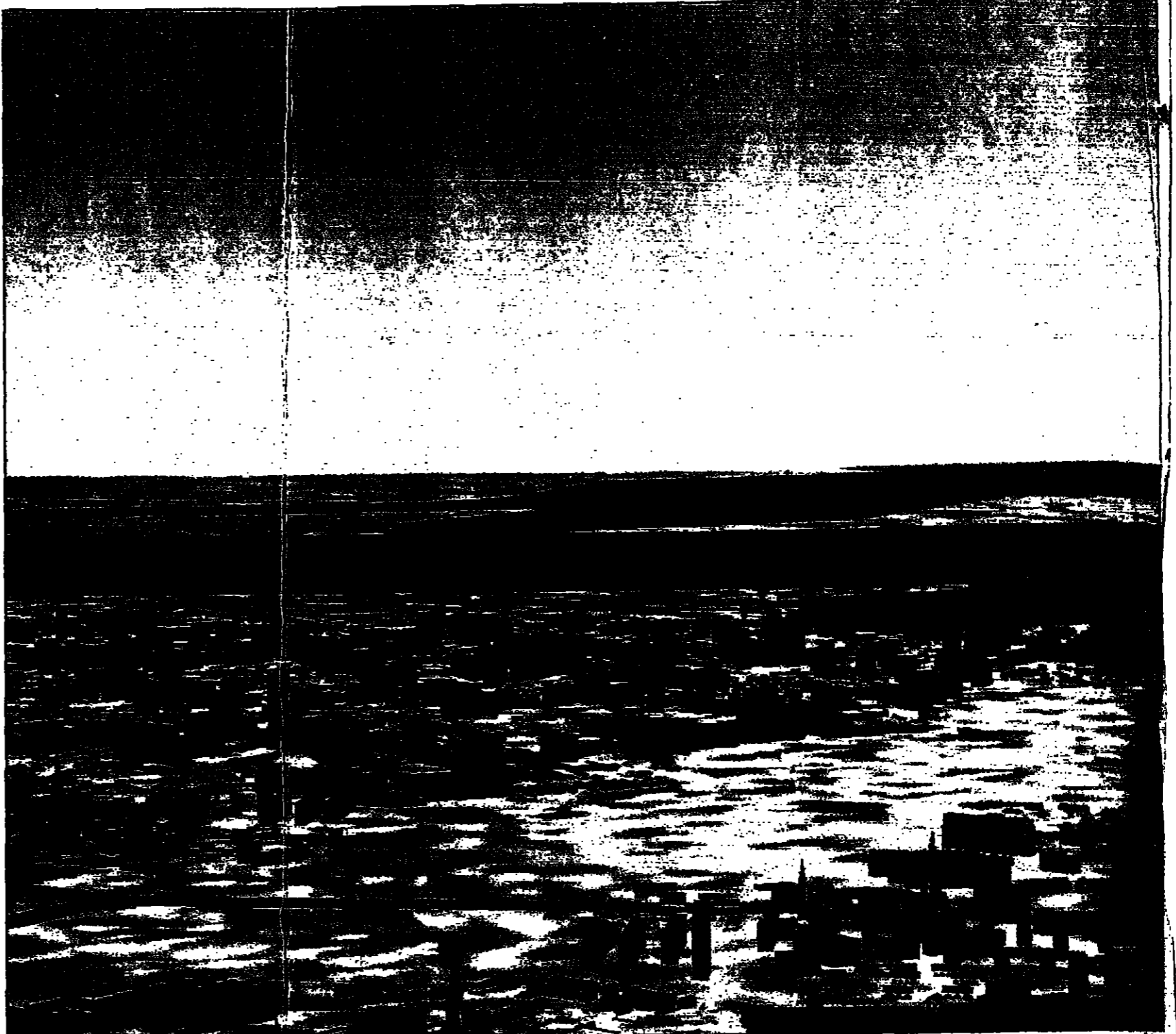
"Speaking Netherlands" builds on an approach known in Britain as "planning for real", where residents affected by a proposed development – such as council tenants whose homes are to be replaced – can move scale models on a board, to produce a development which better suits their needs. It may help mothers or people with disabilities to see the distance between their new homes and shops and other facilities they use, and suggest changes in location. It could assist planners to change road layouts to make public transport more accessible.

But while these exercises can work in planning small localities, they are of limited use for larger areas, Heideveld says. "It is the scale of more than three kilometres (about two miles) which is difficult to understand without flying over in an aeroplane," he suggests. "We need to concentrate more on our large-scale planning process. To do this we need to present plans to people in 3D, moving from the map to the pedestrian perspective."

The 3D modelling works through a Silicon Graphics Octane virtual reality system, while other tools, like the Geo-Kiosk system, can run on an ordinary PC. In the future, it may also be accessible via interactive TV. The consortium that put together the system includes ESRI, a leading provider of geographical information systems (GIS); civil engineering companies; Amsterdam Free University, and planners from the city of Rotterdam, as well as software engineers Cap Gemini.

The proposal for the system came from the Dutch Metropolitan Debate Foundation, which asked a government-backed body, the LWI, to find partners to develop it, and to provide the balance of the funding. The LWI was established to promote a "knowledge infrastructure" across the Netherlands.

Trials of the scheme took place last year at two conferences – one for interested parties and experts, and the other for members of the public. At each event, there were role-play exercises to make long-term planning decisions, and then the delegates saw how these were implemented over a



In the world of 3D modelling, town plans would be seen not just on a map but as virtual reality for the user

10-year period. A new set of planning decisions was then taken, and again the 10-year effects were viewed. Delegates were able, during the course of a day, to see how planning decisions might impact over a 30-year period.

Participants were enthusiastic about creating an environment which not only enabled lobbyists to see the impact of their own proposals, including the knock-on effects, but also encouraged people to take a more consensual approach. In one role-play exercise, environmentalists agreed to

drop their opposition to an expansion of Schiphol Airport in return for ending reclamation of an ecologically important river. Decisions were taken at the conference by simple votes, but delegates could call a wider referendum for important issues. It might eventually be possible for the Geo-Kiosk system to be consulted by the general public over the Internet for a real referendum to help decide on competing planning proposals.

Planners in Britain are enthusiastic about using the scheme here. A spokesman

for the Local Government Association, which represents local authorities, said: "This might help planners to speed up the process of determining planning decisions, which we are very keen to achieve."

Ian Gilfoyle, the Royal Town Planning Institute's IT and GIS adviser, added: "We would welcome it. It will help not only the public but also [council] committee members to see what planning proposals really mean. The trouble is that very few local authorities are sufficiently far forward to have a computer system in committee

meetings. We need to develop ideas like this for decision-makers."

"In the past, the technology has been the lead, and really it is the planners and the system users who have to get into driving seat to get what we want."

It is to be hoped that 3D modelling will also increase public interest in a process that is often seen as too boring to pay attention to, even though it has a strong impact on our lives.

Making planning sexy would indeed be a real achievement.

## Does your PC Plod?

If you're tired of plodding round the Net, then get on the BT Highway. By simply converting your existing phone line into two high speed digital lines, BT Highway lets you send and receive information at up to 128Kb per second, even faster than the fastest modem. And because there are 2 lines you can even be on the phone while you're on the Net. Why not stop the worldwide wait?

To get on the **BT Highway** Freefone 0800 800 845  
[www.highway.bt.com](http://www.highway.bt.com)

BT

BT HIGHWAY IS AVAILABLE ON MOST BT EXCHANGES AND IS SUBJECT TO SURVEY

## Rollovers tell you where you're going from a link

JAVASCRIPT rollovers are everywhere on the Web, and are the most popular way of providing visitors to a site with dynamic feedback about the link they are about to press. The mouse pointer passes over a hypertext link, and the graphic changes its appearance, and then reverts back to its old look.

This is done using JavaScript and event handlers, which tell the browser to act when an event happens.

We'll set up an array to store the location of the images we want to swap round; the JavaScript function, toggle0, and put event handlers into link tags to tell our images when to change. If you want an example go to: <http://www.webbedenvironments.com/examples/45.html>

### Setting up the Array

An array is a special type of variable that can store several different values. We'll be storing all names of the images we'll be using in the rollovers. This code goes into the JavaScript in the <HEAD> of your HTML:

```
if (document.images){
  img = new Array();
  img[0] = "images/o1_off.gif";
  img[1] = "images/o1_rdy.gif";
  img[2] = "images/o2_off.gif";
  img[3] = "images/o2_rdy.gif";
  img[4] = "images/o3_off.gif";
  img[5] = "images/o3_rdy.gif";
  im = new Array();
  for (var i = 0; i < img.length; i++)
  {
    im[i] = new Image();
    im[i].src = img[i];
  }
}
```

Each graphic location in the img[] array has its own unique number – starting with 0 not 1 – which we can use to reference the graphic in the array. To actually load each of those images into the browser, we use the im[] array. The toggle function (below) then uses the im[] array to swap graphics back and forth. You can add as many different images as you want to the img[] array for inclusion in the im[] array, but each needs its own unique number. For this example, I am loading six graphics – an "off" and "rdy" (ready) version of each graphic.

### Doing the work

Now to create the function that will swap our graphics back and forth. function toggle(imgName,num){

### WEB DESIGN



JASON CRANFORD TEAGUE

JavaScript and event handlers give your Web links added feedback

```
if (document.images && imgName){
  imgName.src = im[num].src;
  return;
}
```

The function toggle0 is fairly straightforward. First, it checks to make sure that this browser can swap images (document.images) and if the image that is being referenced actually exists (imgName). Then it changes the source of the image called imgName for the source of the image in the array (set up above) referenced by the num variable.

Changing one image for another Now in the body of your HTML, add the following link and image (Of course, you actually have to have created the graphic being used): <A HREF="option1.html" ONMOUSEOVER="toggle(o1,1)" ONMOUSEOUT="toggle(o1,0)"><IMG HEIGHT="45" WIDTH="100" SRC="images/o1\_off.gif" BORDER="0" NAME="o1">

First, notice that the image in this code has been given a name: o1. All images that will be changed need their own unique name. When the mouse is placed over this graphic (onmouseover), the toggle0 function is run using o1 for the imgName (the

name of the image to be changed) and 1 for num (1 corresponding to the ready version of our graphic in the img[] array). When the mouse pointer passes out of the graphic (onmouseout) the toggle0 function is executed to change the o1 image again, but replacing it with img[0] which is the off version of the graphic.

### Changing a different image

There is no rule, though, that says you have to change the image that the mouse pointer is actually on. You could have the onmouseover event for one graphic change the source of another graphic on the screen. <A HREF="option1.html" ONMOUSEOUT="toggle(o2,2)" ONMOUSEOVER="toggle(o2,3)"><IMG HEIGHT="45" WIDTH="100" SRC="images/o2\_off.gif" BORDER="0" NAME="o2">

Here the image called "redhearing" will run the toggle0 function, but the image that gets changed is called "o2" (right under it). You could also have a link using HTML text to cause the graphic to change, just substitute the image in the link for any text you want.

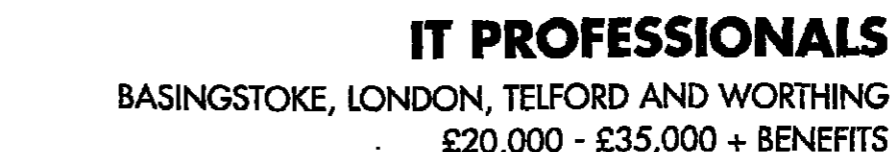
Changing an image in another frame Not only can you change images other than the one the mouse is over, you can even change them in other frames. <A HREF="option3.html" ONMOUSEOUT="toggle(parent.content.document.o3,4)" ONMOUSEOVER="toggle(parent.content.document.o3,5)"><IMG HEIGHT="45" WIDTH="100" SRC="images/o3\_off.gif" BORDER="0" NAME="o3">

Now the image name will include a path to a graphic called "o3" in the frame called content. If that image does not actually exist, the toggle function just ignores this rollover.

After the click Next week I'll show you how to highlight the button for content currently loaded, and make sure the right button is always highlighted.

E-mail comments to Jason at [indy\\_webdesign@mindspring.com](mailto:indy_webdesign@mindspring.com)

IT



Thank *goodness.*  
The last job ad you'll  
ever have to read.

Chances are, very little. Meaningless jargon, here. Spurious claim, there. But that needn't be a problem any longer. Soon you won't have to read job ads ever again. That's because, once you've joined us, there'll be no logical reason for you to leave.

And you'll be kicking off your EDS career with one of our largest customers, the Inland Revenue. It is modernising and implementing sweeping changes to its current portfolio of IT systems. Ranging from the wholesale replacement of 50,000 desktop machines from Windows 3.x to NT to the development of leading-edge Oracle Data Warehouse and Client/Server systems. We are looking for experienced Developers with COBOL, Cool:Gen, Oracle and NT skills. If you should have similar skills, we would be happy to assist your cross training and development where necessary. And all kinds of roles are available - from project manager to programmer to implementation.

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter stating your current salary details and your interest in EDS, to Robert Gerdes, EDS, 4 Roundwood Avenue, Stockley Park, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB11 1BQ. Fax: 0181 754 4277. Email: [ukrecruitment@eds.com](mailto:ukrecruitment@eds.com)

EDS

**EDS is an equal opportunities employer**

► A more productive way of working

**FAX; 0171 293 2505**

# VISION

iT Recruitment

**London with UK Wide Travel £50,000 to £85,000 + Benefits**  
Senior BaN Consultant required to work for the global leader in BaN Implementation. You will currently hold a consultancy or middle-upper level Management position with excellent Business Analysis skills. You will have excellent knowledge of BaN, but hands on technical development experience is not essential. **Ref: GA-163111**

## EDI OUTSOURCING MANAGER

**Guildford, Surrey Up to £45,000 + Car + Benefits**  
 Ideally from an AS/400 operations or systems development background the successful candidate will be experienced in managing a team of consultants, and being responsible for the start up of a new outsourcing operation, EDI knowledge is an advantage. **Ref: RR-166/IN**

**Newbury** **To £25,000**  
A World leader in the field of Mobile Telecomm is urgently seeking an IT Specialist who is looking to move into Project Management. You will be the central contact point for reporting, managing and resolving problems. You will set SLA's, work to tight deadlines and take control of projects, requiring strong Problem Management/Analysis skills. **Ref: ID-1641N**

**VISUAL C++ MFC - COM or ACTIVEX**  
**London (City)** **To £45,000**  
 Experienced Visual C++ MFC developers with between 2-5 years commercial experience are sourced for exciting COM and ActiveX projects. Object Oriented Analysis and Design techniques needed (OMT, Booch, Rational Rose). Call Darren Liscow on 0171 839 2626. **Ref: DL-1631N**

e-mail: [parlgvision@ic.co.uk](mailto:parlgvision@ic.co.uk)

[illegible][illegible]

For more information please contact **Flis Martzell**  
Quoting Ref: **PM0716** at:

**ERS Technical**  
Ambassador House, 575-359 Masted Road  
Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 7YU  
Telephone 01462 22910  
Facsimile 01462 21500  
email [flis@ers-technical.co.uk](mailto:flis@ers-technical.co.uk)  
web <http://www.ers.co.uk/>

**ERS Technical** is a member of the Executive Recruitment Services plc group of companies

Configuration and ABAP work in the UK must be English speaking  
Start dates IMMEDIATE through to March 1999  
Contact: Graham Barker  
**Quality Consultants**  
The Raylor Centre, James Street, York YO10 3WW  
Tel: 44 (0) 1904 425801 Fax: 44 (0) 1904 425812  
Email: [abarker@btconnect.com](mailto:abarker@btconnect.com)

Configuration and ABAP work in the UK must be English speaking  
Start dates IMMEDIATE through to March 1999  
Contact: Graham Barker  
**Quality Consultants**  
The Raylor Centre, James Street, York YO10 3WW  
Tel: 44 (0) 1904 425801 Fax: 44 (0) 1904 425812  
Email: [abarker@btconnect.com](mailto:abarker@btconnect.com)

Digtext are leaders in the supply of technical authors to the IT industry. Our clients have vacancies for experienced authors at all levels, in London and the South East, the Midlands, the West and the North of England, and in the South of France, with salaries for the right people up to £35k. Look at [www.digtext.co.uk](http://www.digtext.co.uk) for details of the latest jobs.

You must possess excellent communication and writing skills. Experience in any of the following is also highly desirable: on-line Help development using tools such as HDK, RoboHELP or HTMLHelp; localisation management; usability testing; telecommunications; financial systems or banking; networks; Framemaker. Many of our clients are also looking for trainers and for people with web skills, in particular HTML, FrontPage and Java.

Please post or e-mail your CV, with a covering letter stating required location and salary, quoting BRIN1198.  
**Digitext: the on-line Help Specialist**  
 15 High Street, Thame, Oxon OX9 2BZ  
 cv@digitext.co.uk

**digitext**

To advertise in this section please call the  
J.T. Appointments Team on **0171 293 2456**.

Gain  
an unfair  
advantage





I.T., ERP FOCUS

We are a leading international provider of information system solutions for the telecommunications industry focusing on large scale projects. Opportunities for professionals are now available in the UK. Qualifications as detailed.

**Position: Project Manager (Ref. 98101)**

- Minimum of Bachelor Degree in Computer Science or related subject or equivalent experience of at least 7 years of progressive responsibility in software development.
- At least 5 years experience in managerial/supervisory capacity
- High level of proficiency in multiple disciplines
- Ability to understand and translate business problems into software solutions
- Proven experience in dealing with senior business management
- Experience in customer care and billing systems

**Position: Senior Team Leader (Ref. 98102)**

- A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or relevant subject or equivalent work experience of at least 5 years in relevant area
- At least 5 years of managerial/supervisory capacity
- High level of proficiency in at least two disciplines which may include one or more of the following development languages/environments: RDBMS (Relational Database); C, C++ UNIX, COBOL
- Ability to manage and prioritise multiple activities concurrently to meet strict deadlines
- Experience in customer care and billing systems

**Position: Team Leader (Ref. 98103)**

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science or related subject or equivalent relevant work experience of at least 5 years
- Proficiency in assigned disciplines which may include one or more of the following languages/environments: RDBMS (Relational Database); C, C++ UNIX, COBOL
- Experience in development of large scale and complex systems
- Experience in customer care and billing systems

**Position: System Analyst (Ref. 98104)**

- Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science in relevant subject
- At least two years of relevant experience
- Knowledge and experience in C, C++, COBOL and/or Power Builder environment with SQL and/or ORACLE
- Experience in customer care and billing systems
- Experience in large scale and complex systems

Send your Curriculum Vitae with the position reference number on the envelope to:  
P.O. Box 21390  
London WC2N 5QF

**ERP CONSULTANTS**

ERP recruitment is a growing specialist area where Asatch's clients require your expert knowledge. As a preferred supplier to a number of key companies across all industry sectors and Management Consultancies, we are able to help you now. We are an ISO9002 Quality Assured company. We will represent you with commitment, discretion and a straight forward approach at all times.

**SAP CONSULTANTS**

**LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES** £90,000 + Benefits  
Experience in financial services, logistics, retail, oil and gas, supply chain or process industries will enable you to provide hands-on configuration skills and assist with process activities for our consultancy client's projects using SAP R/3, FI/CO, or MM/SVPP modules. You must be a key configuration expert, team player and capable of working on your own initiative. Asatch works very closely with this client and they are a very pro-active player who look after their team.

**SENIOR PROJECT MANAGERS**

**LONDON** To £80,000 + Package  
A top 5 Management Consultancy providing implementation to leading retail financial chemical/pharmaceutical, manufacturing/logistics companies requires Managers with experience of large package implementation projects (multi million). With 5 years SAP experience, programme and projects management, you will be involved in world class systems.

**SAP SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS**

**BERKS** £45,000 + Package  
Our client has a user base of 2,500 in the UK, operating sales in excess of £850 million and is offering you a demanding role with a progressive and challenging future, and opportunities to work in the UK and across Europe. Currently migrating to SAP R/3 there is a further roll-out into the millennium. You are an experienced SD/MM Analyst with ABAP/COBOL and 2 years SAP configuration experience linked to user requirement definition and production of specifications for programming and are self-motivated and achievement-oriented. This company also has Analyst and APT SAP roles available.

**INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER**

**BEDS/BUCKS** c.£45,000 + Package  
Applicants with 5 years Project Management experience and a proven track record of implementing major projects, wishing to work for a PAN-EUROPEAN COMPANY, will be responsible for defining region wide systems support requirements. SAP accounting experience preferred for this role, where you will be responsible for implementing and managing the introduction of SAP COGNOS Impromptu and Powerplay, LOTUS NOTES and Technical Infrastructure. SD/MM/Finance design methodology and experience of working with multi-national companies is required. An excellent benefits package is available.

**SAP BASIS SPECIALIST**

**LANCS** c.£35,000  
Our client, a whole solution provider, needs a SAP Specialist to consult in their SAP Support Centre. Working in a BASIS Team supporting a range of SAP R/3 installations, UNIX, NT, TCP/IP and PC Utilities, Oracle Database Management knowledge an advantage.

**SAP TRAINEE**

**LANCS** c.£25,000  
This consultancy is offering the opportunity for you to train to be able to identify causes of reported problems in live SAP R/3 module and to implement solutions and provide advice and guidance to the users including project planning methodologies and systems, technical explanation and SAP R/3 module.

**SAP BASIS ADMINISTRATOR**

**MIDLANDS/S.COAST** £35,000

**ABAP PROGRAMMER-CROSS TRAINING**

**BERKS** c.£30,000

aztech@aztechjobs.co.uk



**IT TRAINER** to 25k + car + benefits

Armstrong Consultants, based in Hertfordshire, is a highly successful software house specialising in accounting and bespoke software. A current vacancy exists for an experienced finance software trainer.

Responsible for the implementation of finance software and training new and existing users. Minimum 2 years IT Training experience and knowledge of Windows '95 essential. Good understanding of accounting principles necessary.

The role will include travel and overnight stays.

Apply in writing to:

Joanne Kerrigan, Armstrong Consultants Ltd, New Barnes Mill, Cottonmill Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 2HA



**YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE**

**TECHNICAL PROGRAMME MANAGER**

Fixed term contract to 30 June 2000 - rising to £33,600 p.a. (with potential bonus up to £9,000 payable on successful completion)

You will have proven experience in a multiple project environment to identify, investigate and resolve the potential problems with regard to the risk, cost and impact on the Force's operations created by the Millennium date change. The projects will incorporate the co-ordination of all aspects of the transition into the year 2000 including the continuation of information systems, transfer of information with other agencies, impact of external system failures on the service to the public and provision of contingency plans in the possible event of failure of information recording and communication systems.

The Force uses distributed UNIX platforms (currently Digital/Compaq and ICL) PC work stations and local area networks across a wide area network. In addition there are a number of legacy systems both internally developed and externally purchased which will require upgrading and testing. We need a technical project manager who is self motivated, committed and enthusiastic who will oversee the impact of this business problem and minimise any less critical risks. You will work with Police Officers, IT staff and external companies in defining, prioritising, identifying options, producing action plans and installing and testing solutions.

The position offers a challenging and demanding role for a person with a professional approach to delivering computer based solutions. It is an essential requirement of this post that you are able to identify a sound technical knowledge combined with proven project management and implementation of computer systems in a multiple project environment. You will also have a clear understanding of the potential problems which the Millennium date change could induce.

First class communication skills both verbal and written are vital as is the ability to liaise effectively at all levels both internally and externally. Where necessary you will be required to negotiate with suppliers to ensure they prove that Force systems will continue to operate efficiently and effectively and that users continue to have access to their applications and data. The post will be based in the Information Technology Department at Head Quarters.

We operate a No Smoking policy.

Application forms are available by telephoning the Recruitment and Selection Section, Personnel Department on Nottn (0115) 967 2408 (24 hour answerphone). Completed application forms must be returned by 4.00pm Thursday 3 December 1998. Please quote Ref: TEPM/402.

We are a committed Equal Opportunities Employer and particularly welcome applications from ethnic minority and disabled people who are under-represented amongst our workforce.

**Why try the rest?... we are the BEST**



Call Trish Bird or Carla Jennings on tel: 01442 251691 days quoting ref no BT4702  
01442 877058 eves/wkends, fax: 01442 250065 or send your CV to the following address:  
Ambassador House, 575-599 Maxted Road, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire HP2 7DX  
email: ers\_plc@ers.co.uk web: http://www.ers.co.uk/ers



**Want a raise?  
Want a better job?**

**Powerful Training at your Convenience**

- MCSE
- MCSE+ Internet
- MCP
- MCSO
- Novell CIP
- CNA
- CNE
- C++
- Visual C++
- Java
- Cisco
- Visual Basic
- A+ Certification
- PC Repair
- Networking
- Office 97
- Web Master
- ...and many more!

When you become a certified IT professional, you get what you really want from a job... a higher salary, more respect and increased skills.

ForeFront Europe, a CBT Group Company gives you an ideal way to train for a professional certification that will elevate your IT career.

We've taken the benefits of traditional classroom training and incorporated them into our computer-based training (CBT) self-study courses. That means you get classroom-quality training without wasting the time and money required to attend expensive classes. But most importantly, it means getting the affordable, convenient and self-paced training you want...NOW!

Most of our CBT courses are co-developed with IT industry leaders like Microsoft, Novell and Cisco. This ensures that you'll receive current information to fully prepare you for passing your certification exams.

**FOREFRONT**

EUROPE LIMITED  
A CBT Group Company

CALL TODAY!

**FREEPHONE 0800 279 2009**

6-8 Wicklow Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Tel: (353) 1 6703177 • Fax: (353) 1 6703211

© 1998 ForeFront Europe. ForeFront's MCSE, CNA, A+ Certification and Cisco Self-Study Courses are trademarks of ForeFront Group Inc. Other names are trademarks of their associated owners. All rights reserved. Specifications subject to change without notice.

UIDP

**Westlaw**

Global Product Development Manager - Online Legal Information

Based in London, United Kingdom - package c. £40-50K plus benefits.

The Thomas Corporation is one of the world's leading professional publishing companies. Its online service WESTLAW is the foremost online legal information service in North America. Thomson wishes to expand its world-wide presence in online legal information and has set up a London based business development unit, West Online International (WOI).

WOI seeks an experienced product development professional to work with local country managers to develop localised WESTLAW online products. The position reports directly to the Director of WOI. Specific duties and responsibilities include:

- Providing professional guidance for defining features, functionality and user interface design
- Co-ordinating product development activities local product development staff and central infrastructure
- Evaluating potential content sources accurately estimating the resources required for content/product development
- Assisting on all technical aspects of the development of content and editorial enhancements
- Presenting products and technology to important content suppliers.

Successful applicants will meet the following requirements:

**Education**

- University degree (preferably BSc and/or MSc). MBA a considerable plus.

**Knowledge and Skills (Minimum requirements)**

- Excellent knowledge of legal information products and of the various print/CD/online product-development processes
- Good knowledge of content preparation/conversion processes and tagging formats (XML, SGML)
- Excellent project management and communication skills
- Ability to identify and translate customer needs into technical specifications
- In-depth knowledge of legal working practices and systems would be a considerable advantage
- Desire and ability to work in a multi-cultural, multi-lingual environment
- Flexibility and adaptability, high energy level, strong motivation, willingness to travel extensively
- Knowledge of major European languages a considerable plus.

**Previous Experience - Years/Type (Minimum requirements)**

- Working experience in the professional online information industry (5 years minimum)
- Relevant product development experience for electronic (preferably online) information products (2 years minimum)
- Software development background and proven project management experience
- Professional consulting experience would be a plus.

Replies should be sent for the attention of Martin Fotheringham, West Online International, 21-27 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NJ or Martin.Fotheringham@wic.co.uk by 30 November 1998.



To advertise in this section please call the I.T. team on 0171 293 2691.

Oracle, Developer/2000, Unix, NT, C, SQL, Securities Trading, CREST/CGO

**HARD WORK, HIGH REWARDS**

We are looking to expand our team by employing an exceptionally bright individual in an application development role, involving analysis, design and production of application software.

A successful candidate will be justifiably confident of his/her abilities, will be very hardworking, and will be able to show a high level of computer literacy. Programming experience is essential.

If you have A-grade A-levels or a 1st in your degree or you can point to some other exceptional achievement that will persuade us to interview you please write, including a CV, to:

SAM Business Systems Ltd, Ref: IND, 22-24 Claremont Road, Surbiton KT6 4QU

**INTERNATIONAL IT CONSULTANCY**

requires experienced IT staff with a proven track record for system analysis, design, development and implementation. The successful applicants will have a minimum of two years experience and ideally educated to degree level. Successful applicants will have experience in any of the following:

- COBOL • CICS • ASSEMBLER • JAVA • DELPHI
- UNIX • QA • SQM • SYBASE • POWERBUILDER
- C++ • VC++ • ACCESS • FOXPRO • LOTUS NOTES
- INFINITY • BASE 24 • VISUAL BASIC • C
- IBM Mainframe Experience: "SAP Skills"
- CVs to Sue Golding, Nordic House, 120 High Street, Purley, Surrey CR8 2AD

**EAGLE EYES REQUIRED**

Would you like to practice as a freelance proofreader or editor earning an excellent income working from home? Then mark the errors in this advertisement and post it to Chapterhouse with your name, and a dress.

We'll send you a free prospectus of our services. Chapterhouse co-ordinates and respects internationally and our professional tutors give you their personal attention. We never pretend it's easy, but we have a seven-year record of establishing many successful freelancers through our co-respondence training and seminars. If your too busy a phone call will do.

**Chapterhouse**

2 Southernhay West, EXETER EX1 1JG  
Telephone: 01392 498488  
Facsimile: 01392 498008

**DIGITAL  
PHOTOFX**

**CLOSING DATE: 27/11/98**

Independent Chi-Square Test:  $\chi^2 = 127.51$   
 Degrees of Freedom: 1  
 Significance Level:  $p < 0.0001$

**you're ill-informed** [www.silicon.com](http://www.silicon.com)

**Authorized Reader**

**0171 293 2456**

For further information call: 0171 510 6158 / [www.independent.co.uk](http://www.independent.co.uk)

All responses and agency inquiries via Kinofisher at [info@kinofisher.com](mailto:info@kinofisher.com)

INDIVIDUAL BUSINESS SOLUTIONS FROM 45,000 PEOPLE

**Computer Science Committee**

www.elsevier.com/locate/ymbs





•



## Channel 5

**TELEVISION GUIDE BY PETER CONCINIE**